

Frequently Asked Questions of the Mathematics Skills Test
Fall 2024

I'm trying to register for Math 1P01 or Math 1P05, but I can only go on a waitlist. What do I do? Do not worry, to get into Math 1P01 or Math 1P05, you need to first pass the skills test. Please join the waitlist. You will be contacted after joining the waitlist with information about the test. Once you pass the test, you will be given an override so you can add yourself to Math 1P01 or Math 1P05.

Where does the test take place?

The Mathematics Skills Test takes place on-campus in St. Catherines in MCJ 430 (Mackenzie Chown J-Block Room 430 on the 4th floor) at specific testing times (10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM) the week of August 12th – 16th 2024. You must [register for a testing time](#).

When I open Möbius for the first time, there are two tests available: Student Readiness Test, and the Practice Test. Are both tests mandatory?

No. The Readiness Test is needed to be completed before attempting the Practice Test, as it helps ensure your system is configured properly to run Möbius and to practice some Möbius syntax. You are not required to take either test before attempting the Skills Test. However, it is strongly recommended that you complete the Readiness Test and the Practice Test before attempting the Mathematics Skills Test Fall 2024. There is no time limit on the Readiness Test, but the Practice Test has a 120 minute time limit, to help students prepare for a timed exam. Grades are not counted for either the Practice or Readiness tests.

How long does the test take? Can I pause a test once I have started it?

The Skills Test is timed for a maximum allowance of 120 minutes. It is possible for you to finish a test in less than that time. A test cannot be paused once it has been started. It is your responsibility to ensure you have allotted enough time to complete the test once you have opened it.

What happens if time runs out and I have not finished my test?

At the end of the time limit, you will be provided with a short grace period in which to complete your current question and then click GRADE. You will not be able to complete additional questions once the time period has closed. Tests that are not completed within the allotted time will still be counted towards your total number of attempts.

What happens if my computer freezes, if I lose my internet connection, or if I close my browser during a test?

Once a test is opened, it will remain open and running online even if you leave the test screen (by closing your browser or moving to another webpage). If you restart your browser and/or log back in to Möbius, you will be able to access your incomplete test with whatever time is remaining. Tests with time remaining can be reopened and completed, and any answers previously entered should still be saved. If there is no time remaining, the test will be closed, and you will only receive marks for questions

that have been completed.

How many times can I take each test? If I take a test more than once, what mark will be recorded?

You can take the Skills Test only twice. If you take it multiple times, the highest mark you obtain will be recorded.

What if I fail the test on my first attempt?

For students unable to pass after their first attempt, there will be an opportunity to take the test again the week of August 26th to 30th. Details on how to register for a second attempt will be sent via email by noon on Tuesday, August 20th, 2024. It will also be made available on the Skills Test webpage

Will my grade count as part of my Math 1P01/1P05 mark?

You only need to pass the test and the grade obtained will not be counted as part of your mark in the course.

What happens if I fail the mathematics skills test?

Students who fail the test will be deregistered from Math 1P01 or Math 1P05 after the course drop date. Students who do not pass are encouraged to take Math 1P20: Introduction to Mathematics which is a preparatory course for Math 1P01 or Math 1P05. Students who achieve a grade of 80% or higher in Math 1P20 are exempt from future skills tests. Students who fail the Skills test for the Fall are eligible again to take the test in future offerings of the Mathematics Skills Test (e.g., January 2025 or August 2025).

Can we see what questions we got wrong, and are solutions provided?

You will be able to see which questions you got wrong, however, correct answers and/or solutions are not provided. Correct answers for the Practice Test and Readiness Test are available either by reviewing your test at the end or by going through the gradebook.

Where can I go if I need help accessing a Practice Test, or if I need help with the test material?

For technical assistance with Möbius, please first consult the [Möbius Technical Issues FAQ](#). If the steps there fail, you can contact Neil Marshall by email at nmarshall@brocku.ca.

For assistance with test material, first consult the [review resources](#). You may also attend either an in-person or online workshop the week of August 19th – 23rd. Details on how to register for a workshop and how to access online workshops will be available by noon on Tuesday, August 13th, 2024.

Are there any exemptions to the Mathematics Skills Test?

Nearly all incoming students in either Math 1P01 or Math 1P05 must pass the test. There are only limited exemptions to the test: having previously passed the test, having credit in Math 1P01/1P05 (or equivalent), or having a grade of 80% or higher in Math 1P20. There are no other exemptions to the test.

Please note that Math 1P97 is not an equivalent course to Math 1P01 or Math 1P05 as it has no trigonometry and is a far easier course. If you qualify for any of the exemptions, you must contact Neil Marshall (nmarshall@brocku.ca) and confirm that you are exempt.

I have accommodations through the Student Accessibility Centre. How do I arrange for accommodations for the Skills Test?

We can work with you and your case manager to address such issues. Please contact Neil Marshall via email nmarshall@brocku.ca and have your case manager confirm your accommodations with him.

I missed my skills test booking. What should I do?

Please contact Neil Marshall (nmarshall@brocku.ca). You must provide complete documentation that is satisfactory (e.g. medical note from doctor detailing when you were sick and unable to take the test) before you can book another appointment. Students who do not provide documentation will not be eligible for a second attempt.

I've passed the Skills Test. Now what?

Students who pass will be added to the pass list. We will arrange for an override to be given so you can register for your course. You will be emailed by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics' administrative assistant (Alan Liu) once the override is put on. This may take at least five business days as there are over two hundred students writing the test. Please be patient. If you have passed, you are guaranteed a spot in your course.

Do I need to bring my own device for the test?

You should bring your phone so that you can use 2-factor authentication. However, the test takes place in a computer lab and so you do not need to bring your own laptop.