When are online placement assessments available?

- Online placement assessments will be available for incoming Fall 2019 students approximately 72 hours after registering for orientation or on May 19th 2019 (which ever is later).
- International students will be able to access their math placement assessment approximately 72 hours after registering for orientation or on May 19th 2019 (which ever is later). However, English Language Proficiency assessments are taken on campus during orientation.
- Students who will be in certain STEM majors will be taking their math placement assessments in a system called ALEKS. This service is available in the Portal by clicking the My Apps button (top right of the screen).

When should I take my online placement assessment?

Most students can begin taking their assessments online starting on the date listed above. We recommend you take the assessments as soon as possible. This way, if you run into any technical problems you can let us know and have time to get them resolved before orientation. We HIGHLY recommend you take your assessments at least two weeks before your orientation date. Don’t wait until the last minute!

IMPORTANT

If you are a native speaker of a language and/or believe you can place out of the placement assessment, do NOT take the language placement assessment online. You should take the placement assessment on campus during your orientation week. If you take the assessment online and place out, you will be asked to take it again on campus to verify your score.

Where do I take my online placement assessments?

- For most students, both the math and language placement assessments are taken in Blackboard. Instructions on accessing Blackboard can be found on our knowledge base.
- Students who will be in certain majors will be taking their math placement assessments in a new system called ALEKS. This service is available in the Portal by clicking the My Apps button (top right of the screen). You should have received an email instructing you to use ALEKS if this applies to you.
- Students who need to take the Japanese placement assessment will take the assessment on campus during the week they attend orientation. Details on the location and time of the assessment will be provided by an orientation leader during orientation.

Do you have any tips for taking the online placement assessments?

- Take the assessment in a quiet place. Make sure that place will remain quiet for the duration of the assessment.
- Avoid doing anything else at the same time you are taking the assessment.
- Do not try taking the assessments on a mobile phone or a tablet. The tests may not function correctly and will be hard to read. We recommend you use a Windows or Apple computer. If you don’t have access to a Windows or Apple computer you can take the test in a local library.
- Have scrap paper handy for the Math placement assessment. Unless you are a Computer Science or Engineering student who is taking the placement assessment using ALEKS, calculators are not permitted during the assessment.
- If you are using a Wireless Internet connection, try to be as close to your router as possible to give you the best possible connection speed. If possible, use an Ethernet cable and connect directly to your router.

I need extra time on the placement assessment due to a disability. How do I get this?

Students who need extra time due to a disability must register themselves with the Student Access Services office. Call 516-463-7075 or email Student Access Services at SAS@Hofstra.edu. Additional information about Student Access Services can be found at https://www.hofstra.edu/studentaffairs/stddis.
I get an error when I try to access Blackboard. How do I fix it?

If you are trying to access Blackboard following the instructions for accessing Blackboard and are getting an error, the problem could be one of several things:

- **It is before May 19th 2019:** If you try to access Blackboard before your placement assessments are ready you will receive an error.
- **You have not signed up or you recently signed up for orientation:** When you sign up for orientation you answer questions that help determine which assessments you need to take. After you sign up, it can take up to 3 business days to process your registration.

If none of the above explains why you are having trouble accessing Blackboard, please email StudentHelp@Hofstra.edu using your Hofstra email address and let us know you are experiencing this issue. We would be happy to help!

I can get into Blackboard but don't see my placement assessment(s). How do I get the missing assessment(s)?

You may be missing either your language or math assessment (or both) for any of the following reasons:

- **It is before May 19th 2019:** Some students will be able to access Blackboard before this date but you won’t be able to see the placement assessments until this date.
- **You have not signed up for orientation:** Some students will be able to access Blackboard before signing up for orientation but you will not automatically get placement assessments until after you register for orientation.
- **It has been less than 3 business days since you registered for orientation:** Some students will be able to access Blackboard prior to getting placement assessments. However, it can take up to 3 business days for placement assessments to appear after registering for orientation.
- **When you signed up for orientation you indicated you did not take a language in high school:** If you have indicated you did not take a language in high school you will not be given a language placement assessment. If you chose this option in error, please email StudentHelp@Hofstra.edu using your Hofstra email address and let us know.
- **When you signed up for orientation you indicated Other as the language you took in high school:** If you have indicated Other because the language you took was not listed we do not have a placement exam for that language. If you chose Other because you took multiple languages in High School please email StudentHelp@Hofstra.edu from your Pride email address and let us know. If you have a preference or want to take multiple placement exams let us know in the email.
- **You are an international student:** International students will only see a math placement assessment. English Language Proficiency assessments are taken in person on campus during orientation.
- **You are in a major that takes the ALEKS math exam:** You will be taking your placement assessment using a new program called ALEKS. This service is available in the Portal by clicking the My Apps button (top right of the screen). You should have received an email if regarding this if it applies to you.
- **You are taking the Japanese placement assessment:** This assessment is administered on campus during the week you attend orientation. You will be given details on the location and time of the test by your orientation leader during orientation.

If you need assistance with a missing assessment please call the Student Tech Support Center 516-463-7777 option 1 or email StudentHelp@Hofstra.edu using your Hofstra email address. Let us know the assessment you are missing and we will investigate the issue.

I want to take a placement assessment in multiple languages. Is this possible?

Yes, you can request an additional placement. Email us at StudentHelp@Hofstra.edu using your Hofstra email address and let us know which language you want to take an assessment in and why. Please allow up to two business days to process your request.

When I signed up for orientation I accidentally indicated I did not take any foreign languages but I would like to take a foreign language placement assessment. How do I fix this?

Send an email to Orientation@Hofstra.edu as soon as possible using your Hofstra email address. Be sure to include your Hofstra ID number and the language you want to take an assessment for in your email.

What AP scores get me credit at Hofstra University?

Information on minimum AP scores needed to get Hofstra credit.
I took an AP assessment in math or a foreign language. Do I need to take the Hofstra placement assessment?

There is no harm in taking a Hofstra placement assessment if you have taken an AP assessment. If your AP score is high enough to get Hofstra credit that score will be used instead of the placement assessment score. If your score is not high enough to get Hofstra credit but you do well on the Hofstra assessment you may be able to place out of the subject you did well in.

You should definitely take the assessment(s) if:

- You haven't received your official AP score yet: If you haven't gotten your score yet you should take the Hofstra placement assessments to help your advisor better advise you on what courses you can take. If you get your AP score and it is high enough to get you Hofstra credit, that score will supersede whatever you got on the placement assessments. You can always change your class schedule if you no longer need a course you registered for as a result of your AP score.
- You plan on taking language courses for a language you did not take an AP for or that you did not study in High School: See the I want to take a placement assessment in multiple languages question above for information on getting access to a language test you don't already have.

While taking the Math Placement assessment I saw 5 answer bubbles but only 4 answers. How do I fix this?

If you were taking the math placement assessment and some/all of your questions looked like the picture below you may have an ad or script blocker that is interfering with your assessment. Instructions on disabling your ad blocker can be found on our knowledge base. You will also need your assessment reset if you have completed it and scored low as a result of this issue or if you were unable to complete the assessment and ran out of time. To get your assessment reset, please call the Student Tech Support Center at 516-463-7777 option 1 or email StudentHelp@Hofstra.edu using your Hofstra email address. Assessments can only be reset Monday through Thursday from 9:00am to 5:00pm and on Fridays from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

My browser closed while I was taking the assessment. What do I do?

As you take the assessment, Blackboard will automatically save your answers. So if your browser closes for any reason you can open it again and you should be able to continue where you left off. However, if you ran out of time or feel you will not be able to complete the assessment in the time remaining, please DO NOT attempt to complete the assessment. Instead please call the Student Tech Support Center at 516-463-7777 option 1 or email StudentHelp@Hofstra.edu using your Hofstra email address and we will reset your assessment for you. Assessments can only be reset Monday through Thursday from 9:00am to 5:00pm and on Fridays from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

I completed the basic algebra assessment. Why don't I see the Calculus Readiness assessment?

You must score at least a 16 out of 25 on the basic algebra assessment to take the calculus readiness assessment. If you scored below 16 you do not need to take the calculus assessment.

I don't like the score I got on my placement assessment. Can I retake it?

The math and language placement assessments are designed to measure your proficiency in these subjects and to determine the appropriate level to continue your studies. There is no passing or failing. Different majors will have different requirements for math and foreign language. We
want to ensure that we place you accordingly.

If you feel your score does not accurately reflect your ability you can discuss this with your advisor at New Student Orientation. We do not want to put you in a math course that you are not prepared for and you will not receive credit for a language course below your placement level. Your advisor will help you through this process. If you have questions you can speak to an Advising Dean in the Center for University Advising at 516-463-6770 or send an email to advising@hofstra.edu.

I have a question not answered here. Who can I ask?

Please call the Student Technical Support Center at 516-463-7777 option 1 or email StudentHelp@Hofstra.edu. We can help you get an answer to any question not answered above.