

**Placement Tests for Calculus I**  
**B.C. Colleges, University Colleges and Universities**

<b>Name of Institution</b>	University of British Columbia	B.C.I.T.	Camosun College	Capilano College
<b>Contact Person &amp; E-Mail</b>	George Bluman bluman@math.ubc.ca	David Sabo David_Sabo@bcit.ca	Peggy Tilley tilley@camosun.bc.ca	Ted Bentley tbentley@capcollege.bc.ca
<b>Do you Use a Placement Test for Calculus I?</b>	No	Yes	Yes, with less than a B in Math 12	Yes
<b>If yes, is it used for mandatory placement or advising?</b>		Not mandatory for those with the required prerequisites. Mainly for advising. The test varies according to the program sought by the student.	Mandatory, with less than a B in Math 12	Mandatory except for: a) students with at least a B in both Princ. Math 12 AND Calc. 12 within 12 months, b) students with an A in Princ. Math 12 within 12 months, c) students who've completed a post-secondary pre-calc. course within 12 months
<b>What placement test(s) are you using?</b>		Internal	Internal	Locally developed
<b>How long have you been using the placement test?</b>		15 years	5 years	Approx. 5 years
<b>Comments</b>	We tried placement tests years ago and found them useless when correlating with final grades. We require a C+ in Math 12 or equivalent. More information is posted on our website, <a href="http://www.math.ubc.ca">www.math.ubc.ca</a>	The tests are reliable for our purposes (identifying inadequate math background of applicants). For more information go to <a href="http://www.math.bcit.ca/faculty/Sabo.html">www.math.bcit.ca/faculty/Sabo.html</a> and follow the prompts.	A follow-up on success rates in Math 100 (Calc. I) 2 years ago showed students with <B in Math 12 had 30% chance of passing Math 100. Students with >B in Math 12 had a 70% chance of passing Math 100. Similar results apply to our Math 115 (Pre-calc.)	The test seems to "work" in the sense that it: a) nets out the grossly ill-prepared (predicts failure better than success) and b) encourages conscientious students to do some preparation prior to the course.

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<b>Name of Institution</b>	University College of the Cariboo	Douglas College	University College of the Fraser Valley	Kwantlen University College
<b>Contact Person &amp; E-Mail</b>	Dave Tomkins tomkins@cariboo.bc.ca	Susan Oesterle s_oesterle@douglas.bc.ca	Susan Milner milner@ucfv.bc.ca	Casey McConill casey@kwantlen.bc.ca
<b>Do you Use a Placement Test for Calculus I?</b>	No	No, but we have a prerequisite B in Math 12 for Calc. I.	No, but we have a prerequisite B in Math 12 for Calc. I	Yes
<b>If yes, is it used for mandatory placement or advising?</b>				Mandatory if student has a C or C+ in Math 12 (a C- or lower in Math 12 requires precalculus).
<b>What placement test(s) are you using?</b>				Internal, administered through the Admissions office
<b>How long have you been using the placement test?</b>				> 10 years
<b>Comments</b>	We have some informal tests we give students to help them understand what they should know entering calculus.	We are struggling with low success rates in Calc. I. A good placement test would: a) improve the current success rates b) be useful for placement of transfer students. If we could find a good placement test, we would use it.		We are experiencing low success rates in Calc. I in spite of the placement test. Are looking at other options.

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<b>Name of Institution</b>	Langara College	North Island College	University of Northern British Columbia	Northern Lights College
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<b>Do you Use a Placement Test for Calculus I?</b>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes, during the first week of class
<b>If yes, is it used for mandatory placement or advising?</b>	Math 12 grade determines placement in Calc. I (3 different streams). Those lacking prerequisite are placed using a Diagnostic test.	It is used if it is not clear if the student has the prerequisite.		Advising
<b>What placement test(s) are you using?</b>	Internal	Test is made up of 48 questions from Math 12 final exams (3 hours)		Self-developed
<b>How long have you been using the placement test?</b>	21 years	5 years		13 years
<b>Comments</b>	See our website <a href="http://www.langara.bc.ca/mathstats/mdt/">www.langara.bc.ca/mathstats/mdt/</a>	Used rarely	Probably a good idea to institute a placement test as our Calc. I failure rates are high.	

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<b>Name of Institution</b>	College of the Rockies	Selkirk College	Simon Fraser University	University of Victoria
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<b>Do you Use a Placement Test for Calculus I?</b>	No	No, but we have a prerequisite C in Math 12 for Calc. I.	Yes	No
<b>If yes, is it used for mandatory placement or advising?</b>		All students entering Selkirk (ABE diploma and transfer students) write a computerized placement test (CPT) which, in part, tests Math skills.	We also require a B or better in Princ. Math 12. The Placement (assessment) test is used only if students want prerequisite waived.	
<b>What placement test(s) are you using?</b>		The CPT uses AccuPlacer by Educational Service (part of U.S. College Board)	External	
<b>How long have you been using the placement test?</b>		3 years	> 15 years	
<b>Comments</b>		The CPT test is used to advise students with course selection. For info. on AccuPlacer go to <a href="http://www.accuplacer.com">www.accuplacer.com</a> CPT is a useful diagnostic tool for ABE and diploma programs - not evident if it will do the same for Calculus Courses.	Our calculus passing rate improved dramatically with B prereq. requirement. We offer a precalculus course for students who are not eligible for calculus	We are considering a placement test as one option to reduce the high failure rates in Calc. I.