

## Preparation for the Assessment Exam & What to do if you did not reach the desired or needed score.

**Before the exam:** Being thoroughly prepared will help you to do your best on the exam. An accurate placement means that you do not have to repeat material that you have already mastered. In addition, your preparation for the exam is a review of material that you will need in the mathematics course that you are about to take.

**After:** If you took the exam already, and did not do well, then you should first analyze why you scored lower than anticipated, and by how much you missed your goal. It may suffice if you simply review more, before you retake the exam during the next testing period.

If however, you have to undertake a major review of prerequisite material, there are different routes that you can take. The one that suits you best depends on your personal style of learning. The following suggestions assume that you feel somewhat comfortable with high school mathematics through 'Algebra II'. Otherwise we would advise you to attend a Community College within the UH system for remediation first.

**Self-study using printed or online materials:** Two suggestions of printed material are '*Math Review for Standardized Tests*' (Cliff Notes) and '*Just-in-Time Algebra and Trigonometry*' (Pearson/Addison-Wesley). As you stand in front of the shelf in the bookstore, or as you are ordering online, you may browse for additional books that appeal to you.

Take the practice exam at <http://math.hawaii.edu/placement>. Part I covers high school algebra, while Part II covers logarithm and trigonometry problems. For the actual Exam, you must score at least "14" on Part I to move on to Part II, and you are given 30 minutes to complete each Part. Also, you should remember that calculators, electronic devices, phones, and notes are *not allowed* for the actual Exam, so preparing for the Exam with such will not be of help.

**Course Options:** You can take a preparatory course like Math 134 (Precalculus: Elementary Function, 2 credits) at UH Manoa, or MATH 135 (Precalculus: Elementary Functions, 3 credits) at the other campuses of the UH System. At UH Manoa, Math 134 does not have a prerequisite, and any admitted student can sign up for this course. A grade of CR ("credit") in Math 134, or C (or better) in MATH 135 or Math 104F at UH Hilo, suffices as prerequisite for Math 140 and Math 203.