

CHALLENGE EXAM PROCESS

Students that have received a placement that they feel is lower than their abilities can take a Challenge Exam to attempt to clear the prerequisite for a higher-level course. Please note that this process is not meant to be a way for students to skip required courses. It is meant to be a tool to challenge the level of initial placement. If successful, these challenges are departmental clearances of prerequisite classes only; they are not for credit and will not appear on your transcript.

1) What classes can I challenge? What tests are available?

Please contact the Assessment office for a list of the available exams.

2) How do I know what class I would challenge? How do know which test to take?

Students should discuss the appropriate course to challenge with a counselor, Department Chair, or by reviewing their milestones and course sequence for the subject. For math challenges, please review the [Math Course Sequence](#).

3) How can I prepare for the exam?

There are study guide for the math challenges here: <http://www.sdmesa.edu/mathematics>. If you feel like you need a refresher prior to taking a class or challenge, the Math 15 series are six week, one-unit online classes. If you take the optional exam at the end of the course, passing that exam is equivalent to passing the challenge exam and the class will be cleared as a prerequisite.

4) When can I take the exam? Do I need to make an appointment?

Please email the Assessment Office for more information on scheduling a challenge exam. Exams are taken in the Assessment Office until the semester starts. During the first week of classes, exams are only available through the Department Chair.

5) What do I need to bring to the exam?

Just your picture ID - all the necessary materials will be provided for you.

6) How much time will I need for the exam?

That depends on the exam you take. The Assessment Office will provide specifics when scheduling the exam.

7) Can I challenge a class that am currently enrolled in or one that I did not pass?

No, you can not take an exam for a class that you are enrolled in or have taken and not passed.

8) What happens after I take the Challenge exam?

Allow 10 days for your exam to be graded by the Department Chair and then returned to the Admissions Department. You would then be notified of your results via email.

9) How many times can I take the exam?

You can only take one exam one time per subject.

10) Where do I take the exam?

Exams are proctored in the Assessment Office (I4-201) at Mesa College – by appointment.

11) How do I request disability related accommodations?

Contact the DSPS Office by email: mesadsps@sdccd.edu or phone: 619-388-2780 and they will assist in coordinating this service.

MESA COLLEGE ASSESSMENT & TESTING OFFICE

Room I4-201 ♦ Phone: 619-388-2718 ♦ testing@sdccd.edu ♦ sdmesa.edu/testing |