Getting Started on the SLU Chemistry Aptitude Test

How do I log-in?

1. **Go to the website:** [www.aleks.com](http://www.aleks.com)

2. **Click on SIGN UP NOW!**

3. **Enter the Class Code:** Enter the 10-character class code provided by your instructor and select Continue. For the Summer and Fall 2022 aptitude test, the course code **TP3WQ-EX64C** as shown below.

4. **Confirm Class Information:** Verify your enrollment information to make sure you are enrolling in the correct class (*SLU Chemistry Aptitude Test (Summer 2022)*). If the information is incorrect, check your class code and select Cancel to return to the previous page. If your information is correct, select the **Confirm** button. Please note that you will sign up for a new ALEKS account (as this is separate from the math placement test) and select “No. I have never used ALEKS before.” when prompted.
5. **Register:** You do not need to purchase an access code for the SLU Chemistry Aptitude Test course. Fill out the student information webpage. Please be sure to enter your **SLU Banner ID Number** for the entry **Student ID**. Every student admitted to SLU is assigned a Banner ID number, and it’s important you get to know yours.

6. **Take the Tools Tutorial:** Once your registration is complete, you will be taken to your My Classes page where the class tile will display in the **Active** section. Select the tile to begin working in the class, beginning with the ALEKS Tools Tutorial by selecting **GET STARTED**.
7. **Take the Chemistry Aptitude Test (Attempt 1):** The chemistry aptitude test is a 60-minute test designed to provide insight as to whether you are ready to take General Chemistry 1 or if you should be working on more foundational skills in Basic Chemistry. To take the aptitude test, choose **GET STARTED** again where you saw the tooltips above.

A page will pop up telling you there are 30 questions and additional information. Select **START** from the bottom of the page and you will begin the test. **Do not look up equations or search for help on this test.** Use only the tools that ALEKS gives you (e.g. conversions, constants). The purpose of this test is to help you, your faculty, and your advisors identify your **current** strengths to best place you into an introductory chemistry course. All students attempting to take General Chemistry 1 must take this as a part of their course requirements, and students are encouraged to take this BEFORE they register for their classes and/or before their SLU 101 meeting with their advisors.
8. Assess your Results: If you scored over 75%, you should be well set up for the mathematical skills and chemistry pre-requisite knowledge to be successful in General Chemistry 1 (CHEM 1110 or CHEM 1130). You are good to go and need to read no further. If you scored less than a 75% and you are considering enrolling in General Chemistry 1, continue to step 9.

9. Improve your Skill Sets: Complete the three skill-building exercises to assess and improve your algebra aptitude, mathematical reasoning, and chemical foundations. [Note: These Skill Builders are separate from the ALEKS for mathematics.]
   - **Skill Builder 1: Quantitative Reasoning**
     - This exercise goes over basic quantitative reasoning and algebra skills required for success in the General Chemistry sequence including solving an equation for a variable of interest, using exponents, and creating mathematical expressions from word problems.
     - Students must obtain a minimum of 70% to move onto Skill Builder 2.
   - **Skill Builder 2: Graphing, Physics, and Measurement**
     - This exercise goes over basic graphing, physics, and measurement topics essential for chemical understanding and problem-solving including setting up solutions to problems with unit conversions, constructing and analyzing a scatter plot, using scientific notation, and understanding electrostatic interactions.
     - Students must obtain a minimum of 70% to move onto Skill Builder 3.
   - **Skill Builder 3: Matter (Atoms, Ions, and Molecules)**
     - This exercise goes over essential foundational chemical concepts that should have been mastered from previous high school or college chemistry courses such as calculating and using molar masses of elements and compounds, identifying the names and symbols of important elements, solving applied density problems, and predicting formulae for binary ionic compounds.
     - Students must obtain a minimum of 70% to retake the Chemistry Aptitude Test (Attempt 2).
   - Once you have attained a 70% or better on all three skill builders, move on to Step 10.

10. Take the Chemistry Aptitude Test (Attempt 2): Retake the chemistry aptitude test to see if you have improved your skill sets required for success in General Chemistry 1.

11. Assess your Results: Reflect on which chemistry course to enroll in.
   - If you scored over 75%, you should be well set up for the mathematical skills and chemistry pre-requisite knowledge to be successful in General Chemistry 1 (CHEM 1110 or CHEM 1130).
   - If you scored less than 50%, you are missing the chemical foundations and/or mathematical foundations necessary for success in General Chemistry 1 (CHEM 1110 or CHEM 1130). You should instead enroll in Basic Chemistry (CHEM 1050) to lay the foundation for your chemical knowledge.
   - If you scored 50-75%, talk with your advisor during SLU 101 and reference the cover table to consider which course (Basic Chemistry or General Chemistry 1) is right for you.
Have Questions About ALEKS? Technical Difficulties?

Contact the ALEKS Support Team. They are very helpful, accessible, and prompt!

Phone: (714) 619-7090
Email: contact us at http://support.aleks.com
Hours (Eastern Standard)
Sunday, 4:00 PM to 1:00 AM
Monday - Thursday, 7:00 AM to 1:00 AM
Friday, 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Have questions about next steps at SLU? Not sure which course is right for you?

Contact the Department of Chemistry! If you did not have your SLU Chemistry Aptitude Test results during SLU 101, please contact the following faculty if you have any questions about the faculty recommendations for your fall registration.

Dr. Asmira Alagic
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