

Implementation Strategies

Hillyard Technical Center, Saint Joseph School District
Saint Joseph, MO

Grade(s): 10 – 12

Scenario: Home Access

Purpose: Core Curriculum

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 100%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 2 hours per week

ALEKS Course: Foundations of High School Math, Trigonometry

Kerry Wood, Teacher

I use ALEKS as an embedded credit at a career technical school. We offer it to students who need a math credit and otherwise would not be able to attend the tech school due to lack of credits. Most of our students are poor in math and get some outside help while in the program.

Scenario

How many days per week is class time dedicated to ALEKS?

Varies

What is the average length of a class period when ALEKS is used?

Varies

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

Student may come into math lab for help or to work on courses any time they are at the tech school, which is three hours a day.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No. Student choose topics themselves.

How did you modify your regular teaching approach as a result of ALEKS?

I didn't lecture to a group. This year, I will request that students work on two to three lessons each week that I select based on their readiness.

How often are students required or encouraged to work on ALEKS at home?

As much as possible. I encourage students to work in ALEKS each day to reinforce learning, even if it is only for 15 minutes.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I call parents if a student is not meeting the time requirement. I also send lesson explanations home so parents can assist the student if necessary.

Grading

Is ALEKS assigned to your students as all or part of their homework responsibilities? If so, what part of the total homework load is it?

ALEKS is all of their homework.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

ALEKS is 100 percent of the grade, and students must master 75 percent of the content to pass the course.

Do you require students to make regular amounts of progress in ALEKS?

Not yet.

Learning Outcomes

Since using ALEKS, please describe the learning outcomes or progress you have seen.

Students have more confidence in their math skills and feel that ALEKS is an easier way to learn.

Best Practices

Are there any best practices you would like to share with other teachers implementing ALEKS?

Monitor students closely and don't let them slide. I generate homework assignments and have them turn them in for credit to keep them on task.