

# Implementation Strategies

**Liber Community School, Private**  
Hayward, CA

**Grade(s):** 7 – 12

**Scenario:** One-to-One Laptop Program, Home Access

**Purpose:** Exit Exam, Improve State Test Scores, Supplement

**ALEKS Portion of Curriculum:** 20–30%

**ALEKS Course:** Mathematics – LV 3 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 5 (with QuickTables), Essential Mathematics (with QuickTables), Middle School Math Course 2, Algebra Readiness, Algebra 1, High School Geometry

**Deborah Kingdon, Directress**

ALEKS has been used off and on for three years at our school. It gives teachers a lot of good information on student progress. This year I am using it as a review for students. My students have filled holes in their math knowledge that they didn't realize they had. I have one student who hated math, and the first time ALEKS told her answer was correct, she became extremely motivated to work harder at math.

## Scenario

**What challenges did the class or school face in math prior to using ALEKS?**

Gaps in student knowledge.

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

3–4 days per week.

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

30–40 minutes.

## Implementation

**How do you implement ALEKS?**

I am using it to prepare students for the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE) and as a review for those who have finished their course of study this year.

**How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?**

I am primarily using ALEKS for those who have finished their course of study for this year.

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

Daily.

## 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?**

Yes, all of it.

**How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?**

Because we grade on mastery, we use the amount finished as the grade. For instance, 89 percent of their pie completed represents a B on that part of their grade. This grade is then averaged into test and other homework grades.

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

Because their grade depends on mastery, they are motivated to finish as much of their pie as possible.

## **Learning Outcomes**

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

My students have filled holes in their math knowledge that they didn't realize they had. I have one student who hated math and the first time ALEKS told her answer was correct, she became extremely motivated to work harder at math.

## **Best Practices**

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

I have found that ALEKS is best used in conjunction with a math program led by a teacher rather than as a complete program by itself.