

# Implementation Strategies

**Palm Desert Charter Middle School, Desert Sands Unified School District**  
Palm Desert, CA

**Grade(s):** 6 – 8

**Scenario:** Computer Lab, Home Access

**Purpose:** Supplement

**ALEKS Portion of Curriculum:** 10%

**Time Spent in ALEKS:** 1 hour per week, 8 hours per term

**ALEKS Course:** Essential Mathematics (with QuickTables), Middle School Math Course 2, Middle School Math Course 3, Algebra 1, California Algebra 1, High School Geometry

**Deborah Legawiec, Teacher**

Overall, the students who use it responsibly and regularly show real benefits. My top students really like seeing their progress, and my less able students have their learning gaps filled in. Usually the students feel really proud of what they have done.

## Implementation

**How do you implement ALEKS?**

Usually assign it as homework.

**Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?**

No.

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

I take them to the computer lab once a month so I can answer questions they have in their ALEKS curriculum.

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

Students often say, "I did that on ALEKS," so we talk about that during the lesson.

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

Yes, about one hour a week.

**How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?**

I talk about it at Back-to-School Night, send letters home, and inform parents of inadequate progress.

## 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, about 20 percent of the total load, on average.

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

ALEKS is graded as homework, but the points count for about 50 percent of that month's points.

## Learning Outcomes

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

My top students really like seeing their progress, and my less able students have their learning gaps filled in. Usually the students feel really proud of what they have done.