

# Implementation Strategies

**Mount Union Area High School, Mount Union Area School District**  
Mount Union, PA

**Grade(s):** 7 – 12

**Scenario:** Computers in Classroom, Laptop Carts

**Purpose:** Supplement

**ALEKS Portion of Curriculum:** 50%

**Time Spent in ALEKS:** 1–3 hours per week, 9–23 hours per term

**ALEKS Course:** Algebra 1, High School Geometry, PreCalculus

**Suzi Bender, Math Department Head**

I LOVE ALEKS! I have recently starting using ALEKS in my classroom, and I have seen such growth in my students' math skills in a short amount of time. ALEKS allows me to easily individualize instruction for my students so that they experience success EVERY DAY!

## Scenario

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

Our average and below-average students have very low self-motivation.

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

2–4 days per week.

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

35 minutes.

## Implementation

**How do you implement ALEKS?**

I currently use ALEKS as a supplement to our curriculum.

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

Initially, we do not. However, once the students fill in some of their pie, I concentrate on topics that are aligned with what we are doing in our planned course.

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

Initially, I give students unstructured time to fill in as much of their ALEKS Pie as possible. I also use the data from the Teacher Module reports to provide instruction to small groups. For example, if 13 of 17 students in the class are ready for a specific topic, I will prepare a mini-lesson on that topic, present it, and have the students practice via a pass/fail ALEKS homework quiz. Once they pass the practice quiz, they proceed to their Pie and complete the problems associated with that topic.

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

I never require students to use ALEKS at home but always encourage it.

## 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 not used for homework.

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

ALEKS is worth approximately 40 percent of the final grade.

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

I do not require regular amounts of progress, but sometimes I give bonuses for certain percentage increases in a class period.

## Learning Outcomes

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

With ALEKS, I have seen substantial growth in independent learning! Students are pleased with their progress. They like the flexibility of choosing the topics they will work on.