Student Guide

FAQ about the Placement and Exit Tests

Centre for Preparatory Studies
2024/2025

What are the Placement and Exit Tests?

These are tests that all newly admitted students at Sultan Qaboos University must take or provide proof of exemption from. The purpose of these tests is to determine the student's level in the foundation program courses. The tests are as follows:

- English Placement Test
- Mathematics Exit Test
- English Exit Test
- IT Exit Test

These tests are conducted during the two orientation weeks according to the schedule you have received and in the order listed above.

When can I be exempted from these tests?

→ You can be exempted from taking the English Placement and Exit Tests if you present an IELTS certificate with a minimum overall score of 5, and at least 4.5 in each skill.

→ You can be exempted from taking the IT Exit Test if you present an IC3 GS5 or ICDL certificate.

→ Exemption from the Mathematics Exit Test <u>is not possible</u>.

→ Being exempted from the English and IT tests means you are also exempted from studying these courses in the foundation program.

→ You can be exempted from studying the Mathematics course in the foundation program if you **pass** the Math Exit Test.

Do I have to take all the tests?

★ You are required to take the English Placement Test if you do not provide an IELTS certificate with the required scores.

★ You must take the Math Exit Test the day after the English Placement Test if you are a student in one of the following colleges:

- College of Arts and Social Sciences
- College of Law
- College of Economics and Political Science (Political Science major **only**)
- College of Education (**except for** Science and Mathematics, and Primary Education - Science and Mathematics major)

Do I have to take all the tests?

- ★ You will qualify for the **Math Exit Test** if you achieve **level 4 or higher** in the **English Placement Test**, <u>if you are a student in one of the following colleges</u>:
- College of Medicine and Health Sciences
- College of Engineering
- College of Nursing
- College of Science
- College of Agricultural and Marine Sciences
- College of Economics and Political Science (Economics major only)
- College of Education (Science and Mathematics major - Primary Education - Science and Mathematics)

Do I have to take all the tests?

★ You will qualify for the **English Exit Test** if you **get the required score in the English Placement Test**, and you will receive a text message notifying you of your qualification for the Exit Test.

★ However, if your major is:

- Islamic Education
- Arabic Language
- Physical Education
- Art Education
- Primary Education (Arabic Language/Islamic Education/Social Studies)
- General Arts

achieving **level 4 or higher** in the English Placement Test means you have **passed** the English courses of the foundation program, and **there is no need** to sit the **English Exit Test**.

Do I have to take all the tests?

★ You will qualify for the IT Exit Test if you **achieve level 4 or higher** in the **English Placement Test**, and you will receive a text message notifying you of your qualification for the Exit Test.

★ However, if your major is :

- Islamic Education
- Arabic Language
- Physical Education
- Art Education
- Primary Education (Arabic Language/Islamic Education/Social Studies)
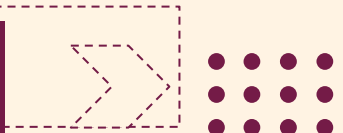- General Arts major at the College of Arts and Social Sciences

You **must take the test**, and you will receive a text message with the date and venue of the test.

How do I find out the venue and timing of each test?

➔ You will **not receive** a text message for the **English Placement Test.** All <u>male </u>students should go to Building **E**, and <u>female </u>students should go to Building **F** to take the test.

➔ You will receive a text message from the Centre for Preparatory Studies (CPS) with the venue and timing of each test. The phone number registered should be **your personal mobile phone number**, not a parent's, to ensure you receive the text messages yourself.

➔ The IT Test will be held over <u>two days</u>, and you will receive a text message <u>one day before your test.</u>

How do I find out the location of the building where the test will be held?

The table below shows the locations of the tests. Please click on the building name to access its location on Google Maps.

Test	Location
English Placement Test	Male students (E block) Female students (F block)
Math Exit Test	Computer Labs (E) Computer Labs (F) Computer Labs (CPS) Computer Labs (DCS)
English Exit Test	F block for all students
IT Exit Test	Computer Labs (E) Computer Labs (F) Computer Labs (CPS) Computer Labs (DCS)

How do I prepare for the tests?

- ★ You do not need to prepare for the English Placement Test, as it measures your general level of English.
- ★ It is essential to bring your <u>SQUID card and an HB pencil</u>. **You will not be allowed to enter the exam room without your SQUID card.**
- ★ For the **Math Test**, make sure to bring your <u>SQUID card, a calculator, and your SQU username and password</u> to access the online test.
- ★ You can view sample tests for the English Exit Test, Math, and IT on the CPS webpage <u>here</u>.

What if I decide not to attend one of the tests?

➔ Each student admitted to the university is required to take the tests they are eligible for.

➔ The student will not be registered for courses if they miss the test without an acceptable excuse.

➔ Travel is not considered an acceptable excuse for missing the Placement and Exit Tests.

Wishing you all the best!

You can find more information about the foundation program and the placement and exit tests on the CPS webpage and its page on X.

https://www.squ.edu.om/cps/Home

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