

Instructions for Completing the Gateway through **ALEKS**:

Background: Previously, if students at OSU needed to complete the Gateway Exam in order to enroll in upper-division accounting courses (such as Intermediate I), they needed to take a test of 50 random multiple-choice questions from all of the topics covered in Financial Accounting (ACCT 2103). The OSU School of Accounting has replaced the old exam with a new learning program called ALEKS that will guide students through what they need to know and assess their financial accounting skills.

The ALEKS Gateway Exam: Understanding the Accounting Cycle is crucial to our accounting students' success in upper-division courses. Therefore, starting February 2019, mastery of ALEKS will be the new prerequisite to enroll in upper-division accounting classes. ALEKS is an artificially intelligent assessment technology (**A**ssessment and **L**earning in **K**nowledge **S**paces) offered by McGraw-Hill that uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what a student knows and does not know related to the accounting cycle and basic financial accounting concepts. Before attempting to take our Gateway Assessment in ALEKS, students can brush up on their accounting skills through a pre-assessment course that will individually identify the topics he or she has the greatest need to learn. As the student works through the course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained. After studying the necessary accounting topics through this course, the student will be required to take a proctored assessment within ALEKS. Through this ALEKS Gateway Assessment, the student will be required to demonstrate a high level of mastery (80% or greater) of foundational accounting concepts. Students are allowed 3 attempts, similar to the previous Gateway Exam, but since they have had the chance to learn all of the material that will be on the ALEKS Gateway Assessment through the ALEKS software, as opposed to getting random multiple-choice questions, we expect the pass rates to be much higher. The cost to the student is \$30 for an eleven-week access code to ALEKS, which can be purchased online following the directions below. After working through the software, the student will need to schedule a time to take the ALEKS Gateway Assessment according to the instructions below.

ACCT 3003- A Better Alternative: ACCT 3003 – Foundational Accounting Skills is a new course that is currently offered that replaces the Gateway Exam. If you pass ACCT 3003, you do not need to pass the Gateway Exam. Even if you're on an old degree plan, you have the option of taking ACCT 3003 instead of the Gateway Exam. We highly encourage you to take ACCT 3003 instead if possible. Our research indicates that students that take the entire ACCT 3003 course as opposed to this one exam have been more successful in their future upper division accounting classes. The Gateway Exam will be completely dissolved once the old degree plans have expired. **Before making this decision, please consult your academic advisor so you can understand how the hours would or would not count towards your degree.**

How to Register for ALEKS:

- 1.) Go to <https://www.aleks.com/>.
- 2.) Click on the link for "New Student? Sign Up Now!"
- 3.) Enter the following class code: **NCRDH- 9EUFR**
- 4.) You should see the following Confirm Class Information- Click "Confirm":

Confirm Class Information

You are about to be enrolled in the following ALEKS class. Check the class details carefully.

Class Code:	NCRDH-9EUFR
Class:	Accounting Gateway Exam - Self Registered
Subject:	Accounting Cycle (Corporation)
Instructor:	Rachel Cox
Class Dates:	12/05/2018 - 03/04/2020
Institution:	Oklahoma State University

- 5.) If you have never used ALEKS, say “No” and continue to register
- 6.) Register with your Name, E-mail Address, OSU Student ID (AXXXXXXXXX), and choose a password
- 7.) Accept the Terms of Use
- 8.) Write down your “Login Name” so you can easily login to ALEKS in the future
- 9.) Click “No, I need to purchase an access code”
- 10.) Purchase the 11 week ALEKS online access for \$30
- 11.) After you have fully registered and purchased ALEKS, you should be able to start the tutorial and “Knowledge Check”.

How to Schedule your Exam through the Accounting Department at OSU:

After going through the ALEKS tutorial and Knowledge Check (which is a pre-assessment to determine what you already know), the software will launch you into a “goal completion” phase to help you learn the accounting cycle topics that you struggled with during the pre-assessment. There are 34 Topics to master in order to “fill in your pie.” You’ll then need to work through every topic until you have mastered all 34 pieces of the pie. Once you have worked through all of the topics within ALEKS, or you feel ready to take the ALEKS Gateway Assessment, you will need to schedule a time to take the exam at the **OSU-Stillwater, OSU-Tulsa, or OSU-OKC Testing Centers. You will have 1 ½ hours to take the assessment, and only a non-programmable calculator and a scratch piece of paper and pencil is allowed.** For a limited period of time when the testing centers are closed for the COVID-19 pandemic, after completing all 34 topics, students can schedule their remote exam session by e-mailing rachel.cox10@okstate.edu. You will receive a unique code to take the exam after verification that your ALEKS account shows that all 34 topics have been completed and your pie is filled. After the testing centers re-open, the remote exam will not be an option. After completing the exam, if you demonstrate mastery of the topics **through a score of 80% or above**, your score will be reported to the Registrar and your hold will be removed for upper division classes within one week of passing the exam. If you have any additional questions or concerns, or if your registration hold is not timely removed after passing the ALEKS Gateway Assessment, please e-mail: rachel.cox10@okstate.edu.