



Dear Parents and Guardians:

On January 24, 2018, all math students in Prince Edward Island enrolled in first semester Math 521A, Math 521B, and Math 521K will write a common assessment of mathematics skills learned up to the end of their grade 11 course. The Secondary Mathematics Assessment (SMA) is developed by teachers based on the curriculum that students learn every day in class. Sample questions and other resources are provided on our website.

Please familiarize yourself with the policies outlined below and share them with your child. For more elaboration on the policies, refer to the Administration Guide under the link: <http://bit.ly/SMA-PEI>.

The SMA is a mandatory provincial assessment written in place of the traditional teacher created final exam. It will be worth 25 percent of the overall mark for the 521A and 521B courses and 20 percent for the 521K course. The assessment result will be calculated into the final grade on the report card; however, the mark will appear in the Provincial Assessment Folder in Students Achieve. Students who are absent on the day of the assessment are required to have documentation explaining the absence. In the case of illness, a doctor's note will be required. Students with an excused absence will receive an INC code (incomplete) for the SMA in the online gradebook (SAS). Students with an INC due to an excused absence will have the opportunity to write the assessment on February 14, 2018.

Students will have 2.5 hours to write the assessment with an extra half an hour if they need the extra time. Students are not permitted to leave the examination room until at least 1.5 hours into the examination period. Students who arrive more than one hour late for the assessment will NOT be allowed to write the assessment. Any student who must temporarily leave the room must be accompanied by a replacement supervisor.

Students whose instruction is supported throughout the semester with adaptations will be provided the same supports during the assessment as long as the adaptations do not compromise the validity of the assessment. Please see the Administration Guide for the list of acceptable adaptations for the assessment.

Any student who, intentionally or unintentionally, obtains improper access to examination papers prior to writing, or who impersonates another student, or who communicates electronically through phones, email, or file sharing, or who engages in any form of copying, cheating, or academic dishonesty will be dismissed from the examination and will be required to write another assessment on February 14. With this in mind, students will be reminded to turn off their cell phones before beginning the assessment.

Only dedicated non-graphing, non-programmable, non-solving calculators are allowed for use during the assessment and students should clear the memory from their calculators before arriving for the assessment. Please refer to the calculator policy for a more comprehensive list of prohibited calculators.

Any student may request a reread of his/her assessment. A panel will review the assessment to ensure the marking standard originally intended has been appropriately applied and a clerical re-check of the mark calculation is carried out. For further details regarding the application (no fee required), refer to the Secondary Mathematics Assessment link on the government website (<http://bit.ly/SMA-PEI>) or contact the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture.

For more information on the Secondary Math Assessment, contact Laurie Callbeck at the Department of Education, Early Learning and Culture at (902) 438-4833 or visit our website at <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/student-assessment-and-achievement>.