

Diocese of Richmond
Algebra I Exam Guidelines

The following guidelines are provided for the Diocesan Algebra I Exam. **Please note that some of this information may be revised.**

The Exam

1. The exam is derived from the concepts outlined in the Diocesan Consensus Curriculum for Algebra I – 1 Year Program. More than one topic may be contained within one question.
2. The exam consists of **45** questions. Each question is worth three points and a perfect score is **135**. A student must receive at least 94.5 points (70%) to pass.

A team of mathematic specialists, selected by the Diocesan Office, will grade the exams according to the following criteria:

Points	Reason(s)
0	no attempt at the problem or an attempt that demonstrates no knowledge of the problem
.5	meager attempt demonstrating very little knowledge of the problem
1.0	made an attempt demonstrating little knowledge of the problem
1.5	made an attempt demonstrating some knowledge of the problem
2.0	has arithmetic errors and demonstrates knowledge of the problem
2.5	has an arithmetic error and demonstrates complete knowledge of the problem
3.0	full answer and totally correct

Each member of the grading team will grade the same page of all exams to provide consistency in scoring.

The Exam continued

3. Exams should be scheduled in the morning allowing two hours for the exam. The exam will be completed with working space and graphs. A formula bank consisting of the distance, slope, quadratic, and Pythagorean formulas will be provided. Although the formulas will be stated, a title, variable or expression will not identify them. No multiple-choice questions appear. Scrap paper will be provided. However, **only that work which appears on the exam will be graded.**
4. Students may use a calculator. Graphing calculators are **NOT** permitted. Each student must bring his/her own calculator. **Sharing of any materials is not allowed.**
5. Previous years tests are to be used for practice tests. **The practice exam can be found on the Diocesan website under School Resources/Practice Exams.**

Exam Administration

1. The exam date is **usually the 3rd week in May of the school calendar year.**
2. The exam will be e-mailed to each Principal prior to the exam date. The school is responsible for making as many copies as needed. Please keep one copy to be used as the practice exam for the following year. Any school that has technological difficulties should contact Francine Conway or Dana Erby immediately at the Office of Catholic Schools at (804) 359-5661.
3. **Overnight the completed exams to the Office of Catholic Schools, 7800 Carousel Lane, Richmond, VA 23294, Attn: Algebra I Exams.** Grading will occur the following week and results will be e-mailed to the Principals as soon as grading is completed. Certificates of Achievement for those students who earned the high school credit will be mailed to the school.

School Record Sheet

Schools will sign-up each student on-line. The number order in which the student is registered on-line is how the student will be identified on the exam. Students will **NOT** be writing their names on the actual exam. A Record Sheet will be created in the same order as the student's were registered, will be given to the principals indicating if the student passed or failed along with the student's score of the exam.

Any questions about these procedures may be directed to Val Mosborg, Algebra I Exam Coordinator, Master Curriculum Council at vmosborg@piusxparish.org.