

Math & Science Assessment Calculator Policy

7.21.2009

Exam List

Calculators are permitted on all math and science exams as well as the following assessments: ABC1, ABC2, ABC3, BSO1, BUO1, ATO1, AUO1, CMO1, BLO1, BTO1, FNC1, EGC1, BMO1, EGC1, and FNO1. Calculators are prohibited on all other objective assessments.

Permitted Calculators

You may use a basic, scientific, or graphing calculator, unless it has a built in computer algebra system (CAS). For example, the TI-82, TI-83, TI-83+, TI-84, TI-84+, TI-86, and TI-Nspire (non-CAS) are acceptable. Calculators with paper tape are allowed if the tape is removed and they are not prohibited for other reasons.

Prohibited Calculators

The following types of calculators are prohibited:

- Calculators that include a computer algebra system (CAS) are NOT allowed. For example, the TI-89, TI-92, and TI-Nspire CAS are NOT allowed.
- Computers and PDAs are NOT allowed.
- Calculators with an electronic writing pad, pen-input device, or QWERTY (typewriter) keyboards are NOT allowed.
- Calculators that are part of electronic communication devices are NOT allowed. For example, cell phone calculators are NOT allowed.

Assessment Recommendations

- PNC – A scientific or graphing calculator is expected for this exam
- QLC1, QMC1 & QLO1 - A scientific calculator is expected for these exams
- All others – A basic or scientific calculator is recommended, but is not expected

Program Recommendations

Secondary Science: All secondary science teachers should be familiar with how to use a graphing calculator. It is recommended that students in secondary science education programs obtain a TI-83+, TI-84+, or TI-Nspire (non-CAS) graphing calculator. These are the most popular calculators on the market and in the classrooms. They include scientific notation, advanced functions, and graphing capability. They also come with the ability to connect with the calculator-based laboratory (CBL) and calculator-based ranger (CBR) portable data collecting devices. These devices allow you to collect data on motion, light, temperature, and voltage and are essential in any middle or high school science classroom.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding the calculator policy, please contact the Math Content Mentors, at liberal_arts_math@wgu.edu.