



College Ready English and Math Initiative

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction with

Dakota College at Bottineau

Tech Support:

- [Technical Support for McGraw Hill](#)
- 1.800.331.5094

Q: Where can I find additional resources on CREAM?

A: Please visit the [CREAM NDDPI Site](#) for more information and resources.

Q: What is the outline for CREAM?

A: Students in need of participating in Math will use [McGraw Hill's ALEKS](#).

Students in need of participating in English will use [McGraw Hill Connect](#).

Students are encouraged to use the same username/email/password for both by using their legal name and student K-12 assigned email address.

The following steps must be followed to be considered CREAM complete:

1. **Pre-Test:** Students begin by taking a pre-test.
 - a. In McGraw Hill ALEKS this will determine what modules students have mastered and those they still need to work on.
 - b. In McGraw Hill Connect, this will be a baseline measurement for growth throughout the program.
2. **Module Assignment:**
 - a. In McGraw Hill ALEKS: Students will be assigned modules to work on. They are required to earn 70% or greater within each module to progress.
 - b. In McGraw Hill Connect, learners will progress with adaptive learning technology and will follow the plan laid out through the program earning a 70% or greater on each assignment/quiz.
3. **Post-Test:** Once a student has earned a 70% or greater on each assigned module and completed all adaptive learning assignments and quizzes through McGraw Hill Connect and/or ALEKS, a student will take the English and/or Math post-test. A student also must earn 70% on the post-test to complete CREAM successfully.

Successful completion is reported from McGraw Hill to the state where it is placed on the learners eTranscript as McGraw Hill Connect and/or McGraw Hill ALEKS using the post-test score on a student's high school transcript used for placement purposes within NDUS as per [NDUS Policy 413 Course Placement \(Effective August 1, 2023\)](#) and [NDUS Procedure 413.1 Course Placement \(Effective August 1, 2023\)](#). Students may not use CREAM for entrance into NDUS.

Q: Who should participate in CREAM?

A: Target students should be high school seniors; however, qualifying juniors may also participate in the program. There is no cost to qualifying students to participate in CREAM. To qualify for the program, students must meet one of the following criteria:

- ACT Math scores below 21 for Math Remediation.
- SAT Math score below 530 for Math Remediation.
- ACT English scores below 18 for English Remediation.
- SAT Writing score below 490 for English Remediation.
- Students who do not intend to take the ACT/SAT and are pursuing higher ed.
- Math or English teacher recommendation.
- Students who achieve a qualifying college placement score and request to participate in the program will need to cover the cost of McGraw Hill Connect and/or McGraw Hill ALEKS.
- Current contract rates:
 - McGraw Hill Connect at \$85.00 per 12-month subscription for English.
 - McGraw Hill ALEKS at \$60.00 per 12-month subscription for Math.
 - Combination of McGraw Hill Connect and McGraw Hill ALEKS at \$85 per 12-month subscription for both English and Math content.
- College-bound juniors may enroll in College Ready Mathematics; this will allow schools to provide intervention for credit before the students complete the mathematics credit required for graduation and will provide additional time for these students to complete the mathematics portion of the CREAM program.
 - College-bound juniors who have not met the benchmark score of 21 on their ACT in math or who have historically struggled in math, as demonstrated on local interim assessments, would now be candidates for CREAM math; this means that college-bound juniors may be enrolled in College Ready Math during their junior year—before they take the ACT if they have a history of struggling in mathematics.
 - Students will still need to be seniors to enroll in the College Ready English program.

Q: How can our school implement CREAM?

A: There are a variety of ways schools have implemented CREAM based on the individual needs of the schools and their students such as during an English/Math class, before school program, after school program, study hall section, CREAM section, and independent study.

Q: How long does it take for a student to complete CREAM Math and/or CREAM English?

A: This program is personalized to each student where they will have their own learning path based on their pre-test, which determines what topics they have mastered and which they still need to work on. Students will have the ability to work at their own pace and pending how fast they work and how much time they are allotted will vary the amount of time each student needs to finish the program. It is recommended, at a minimum, a semester length.

Students will have their own username and password and will have access to the McGraw Hill Connect and/or McGraw Hill ALEKS program(s) for one full calendar year in which they enroll.

Q: Can students earn credit for completing CREAM Math and/or CREAM English?

A: Yes, students may elect to earn either ½ or one high school credit by enrolling in

- 1) College Learning Lab–English 12 (05078) and/or
- 2) College Learning Lab–Math 12 (11118)

It is up to each individual school to determine necessary requirements to earn credit. It is highly recommended that schools offer CREAM for credit.

Q: Is it possible to have two different CREAM Math and/or CREAM English scores on a transcript?

A: Yes, since each individual high school determines the necessary requirements to earn credit this may be a different score than the post test score for placement purposes and therefore a student may have two different McGraw Hill Connect and/or McGraw Hill ALEKS scores on their transcript.

Q: If a student begins CREAM, are they guaranteed to finish and/or be successful?

A: No, there is no guarantee that a student may finish within the given time each school has provided them. Further, there is not a guarantee when a student begins CREAM that they will be successful.

Q: What if a student doesn't earn 70% or greater on a particular assignment?

A: Students have unlimited attempts per assignment.

Q: Can students retake the post-test?

A: Yes; however, it is recommended that after a student takes the post-test, which does not reach the minimum requirement, that the facilitator has the student go back and practice modules which may help them improve their post-test score. There is no limit to the number of times the student can take the post-test.

Q: What if my student does not finish the program by the end of the school year?

A: Students have access to their McGraw Hill Connect and McGraw Hill ALEKS account for one full calendar year from the time they register. Students may continue working throughout the summer to finish the program. It is up to each school to work with the students on posting the CREAM score on their transcript.

Q: What do you do when you believe a student is completed with the program?

A: Ensure that a student has completed all work within McGraw Hill Connect and/or McGraw Hill ALEKS.

- If a student is being awarded high school ½ or 1 credit, you'll want to use the following codes College Learning Lab–English 12 (05078) and/or College Learning Lab–Math 12 (11118).

- If a student is using their scores for NDUS placement, this will automatically appear (these scores are reported monthly) on your learners' eTranscript from the state. It will be placed on their transcript in the location that their ACT/SAT scores will appear and will be listed as McGraw Hill Connect (score) and McGraw Hill ALEKS Math (score).
- If you do NOT use eTranscript and testing scores are placed on your learner's transcript yourself, please use the following example below for entering your learner's **post-test scores** in McGraw Hill Connect (score) and McGraw Hill ALEKS (score).
 - The Language Arts score is the one that should be used for the purpose of placement into entry-level, credit bearing English courses.

Q: What is the grading scale used in CREAM?

A: Each respective school determines what grading scale you use to determine grades when complete CREAM for High School credit; however, McGraw Hill works on the traditional model used of the following:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
Below 59	Failing

The traditional model is also used when CREAM completion is reported for the McGraw Hill Connect English and McGraw Hill ALEKS Math score to the eTranscripts when used for college placement scores.