

Calculator Use Policy

Students must show proficiency in using manual calculation methods before using a digital or handheld calculator. Exceptions to this rule are outlined in the Student Accommodations section below.

When Calculators Are Allowed

- Real-world, multi-step problems with large/complex numbers
- Checking work after solving by hand
- Graphing and data analysis (ratios, proportions, linear relationships, statistics)
- Advanced topics (irrational numbers, exponents, systems, functions)

When Calculators Are Not Allowed

- Practicing computation (fractions, decimals, integers)
- Early learning of new concepts (equations, inequalities, expressions)
- Fluency quizzes/tests focused on math facts or basic skills

Assessment Use of Calculators

- Quizzes/Tests (fluency skills): No calculators
- Unit projects (application): Calculators allowed as directed
- Standardized tests: Follow official calculator rules

Calculator Policy for Math		
Grades	Branches Learning Policy	Allowed Accommodations*
2-5	No calculators allowed, except for students with an approved student accommodation (see below).	Digital or handheld four-function calculator with square root and percentage functions.
6-7	Students can use a four-function calculator with square root and percentage functions.	Digital or handheld four-function calculator with square root and percentage functions.
8 - 12	Graphing calculators, including the free online Desmos graphing calculator or a TI-84 or similar models.	Digital or handheld scientific calculators. Students may also use a four-function calculator with square root and percentage functions.

Student Accommodations*

Teachers or HSTs may determine that additional support is necessary. If a calculator is required as part of an accommodation, students may use a handheld calculator or an online calculator. Students who need a specialized calculator (such as one with large keys or a talking function) may use their own, as long as this is specified in their approved IEP or 504 Plan.