

TCS Math Department Calculator Requirements

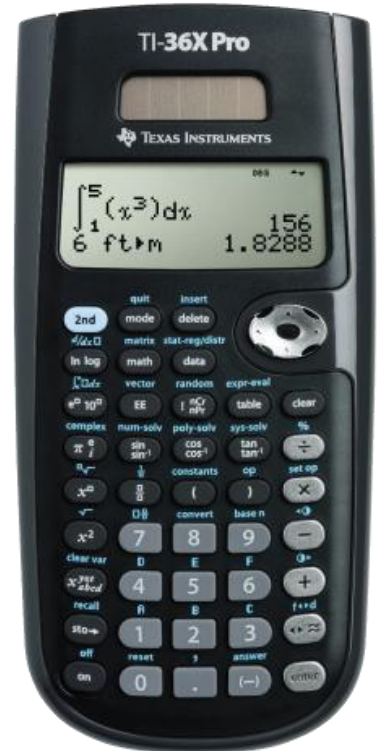
For Algebra II and above:

The calculator required by the TCS Math Department for classes in Algebra II and above is the TI-36X Pro Scientific Calculator because it is loaded with features that enhance your work in upper-level high school math courses. It gives you access to the trigonometric functions, natural and common logarithms, and numerous math features, including sigma summation, permutations and combinations, factorial calculations, a table of values application, data analysis, and many others.

This is all available for a purchase price of \$25 in almost any store. But if you do some creative shopping, you'll often find it for as low as \$17 online or in local stores.

Students may use the TI-84 series type calculator if they wish, but the pricing on these is prohibitive compared to the TI-36X Pro, and we'd rather you invest the difference in a tablet or laptop for the many advantages they offer you in academic work.

The TI-36X Pro is not a graphing calculator, but your work in graphing will typically be done with free online applications such as the Desmos Online Graphing Calculator. This allows you to use your laptop or tablet to gain wifi access to the online graphing applications at school or for you to do online graphing work at home. (Many students also use their phones to access the Desmos Online Graphing Calculator.)



For Algebra I and Geometry:

Students in Algebra I and Geometry classes at TCS may use the TI-30XS Multiview Scientific Calculator. It has all of the features needed for work in Algebra I and Geometry and is a good introduction to the nature of the TI-36X Pro Scientific Calculator that is used in the upper-level classes. TCS students in Algebra I and Geometry classes may also simply move to the TI-36X Pro Scientific Calculator and have all of the TI-30XS Multiview features and more.

The TI-30XS Multiview Scientific Calculator gives students access to the trigonometric functions for geometry and a multitude of features helpful in algebra, such as simple data collection and analysis, a table feature for examining function outputs, and multiple variable storage vehicles. It offers a convenient π symbol, an exponent key, a reciprocal key, and many other conveniences for algebra work.

These calculators are typically available in local stores for \$18, but some creative shopping can locate them for as low as \$14.

Other Calculators: These calculators are by no means the only ones that will do the job needed in our classes, but we are often unable to show students how to locate some features in alternative calculators.

