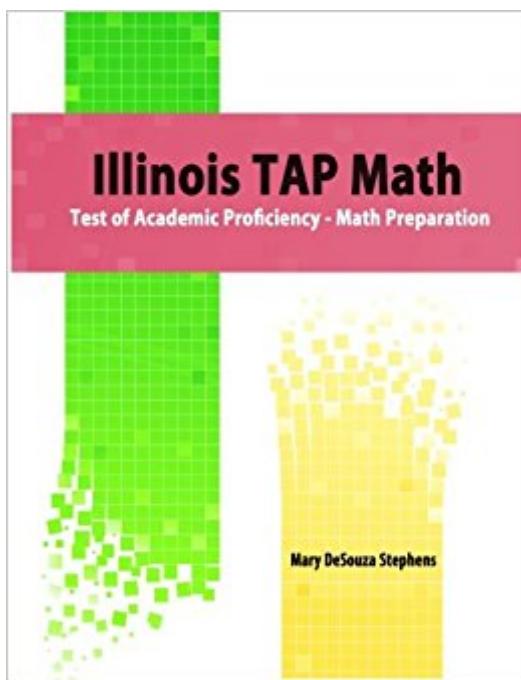


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# Illinois TAP Math: Test Of Academic Proficiency - Math Preparation



## **Synopsis**

Illinois TAP Math - This book is designed to help you succeed on the mathematics subtest of the Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS) Test of Academic Proficiency. It covers all the essential topics to develop a deep understanding of math fundamentals including number sense, functions, algebra, geometry, graphing, data analysis, and statistics. The book contains over 500 practice questions, 40 lessons, detailed explanations, quizzes, and comprehensive exams to ensure a complete grasp of all objectives tested on the exam. Please visit [www.prepforward.com](http://www.prepforward.com) for more information on this book, to contact the author, or to find out about online, interactive, self-paced review courses for all subtests of the Illinois Test of Academic Proficiency.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Mary DeSouza Stephens graduated from MIT with a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering. She has over 15 years of teaching experience, including designing courses and teaching as an adjunct faculty member at UMASS Boston; TAing discrete math at MIT; and developing curriculum for and teaching classes in high school computer science, LSAT, algebra, geometry, science, humanities, and K-12 math and computers. Outside of teaching, Mary worked in engineering, product management, and strategy for companies including Edusoft and Oracle. In the past few years, she has spoken at international education conferences and has served as Professional Math Consultant at Merrimack College, founder of Omega Teaching, and Research and Development Manager at Houghton Mifflin

Harcourt. She is the founder and CEO of PrepForward ([www.prepforward.com](http://www.prepforward.com)), a leading provider of teacher preparation materials, and can be contacted at [mary@prepforward.com](mailto:mary@prepforward.com). Please visit the PrepForward website to find out about other preparation offerings, including self-paced, online courses that are certified by the Illinois State Board of Education for CPDU credit.

So I took the TAP exam and passed every subject minus the math. I have checked out study guides from the library and even purchased the online study and practice tests from Longsdale Publishing. Most books are the same. They teach you the concepts and then give you a practice test in the back along with the right answers on another page. The problem with that is, whenever I get an answer wrong, I have no idea why. And have no one to go to for help. This author however breaks each and every problem down along with the right answer. I feel like I can move along in my studying without always feeling "stuck". I test in a month and am so glad I purchased this study guide.

I have studied from this book for a month or so, about 2 hours each day. I used ACT math practice tests in conjunction with this book, and I got 98% in TAP. I was super happy because I did not touch math since 1996. I am from Eastern Europe and it seems that those standards in math are pretty high. This book helped me a lot with reviewing in depth the theory. It is a very useful book and it offers very clear explanations. I would recommend it to everyone looking to improve his/her math skills.

Mary DeSouza Stephens' text was helpful, and I think I passed the TAP math subtest on my first try as a result of dedicating about 10 days focused on this text. I took each TAP subtest on its own, so I had 150 minutes to finish 50 questions for the math subtest; I had 30 seconds to spare. I went through this book cover to cover, completing approximately one chapter per day in between my summer and fall semesters; the last 2-3 chapters each took a little over a day to get through. I took both the diagnostic and final exams in the book after finishing the 6 chapters, and those each took about a day. After that, I went through 2 rounds of revisiting one question per exam, per chapter review, and then per practice set from the end of the book to the beginning and back again. Overall, this book was a very good review, however, I was a bit confused with some questions and explanations of answers in the last few chapter reviews and the 2 exams in the book. The questions either caught me off guard (it was like I had never seen anything like it before), and their steps to solve them were perhaps more complicated than they needed to be, or assumptions were made

that weren't clearly mapped out in the chapters or practice sets. I almost emailed the author to ask her about how she might revise them. As I mentioned I passed the exam, and I think that's a result of using this text (and a little bit of the math foundations found in the back of the GRE study guide for some clarity on more complex problems).

What an amazing tool, it helped me tremendously! Great examples, practice problems, and practice test. I worked through the entire book and do not know how I would have passed the math portion of the exam without it. If you struggle with math or just need a refresher on the concepts this book is a must have!

Helped me get a 235 on the TAP (so close to passing) but I should have started studying earlier

I passed!!!

I gave this three stars only because at the end of studying the whole book it did not help me. I am okay at math and did struggle on a lot of things even with the explanations. I have spent a whole month, 3 hours a day preparing and for what? Nothing. My efforts had no effect. But why the three stars? I honestly ended up switching my major because the Education standards and common core are way too high in my opinion. How does this have to do with the book? Well I have taken the TAP twice and I have gotten 200+ as a score in math every time. The problem? It is either the TAP for one, because I'm sure the state of Illinois rigged it so teachers can fail because I thought I honestly passed by just like the last exam, I was EXACTLY three questions from passing and two, this book had great problems to do except for the fact that like 20/50 were on the exam. Yes, let me repeat that, there were about 30 questions that were similar and the other 20 were like nothing I have ever seen before in all of my years of taking mathematics. So yeah it was helpful, but not helpful enough. I wish it had more examples of WHAT is on the exam and not basic stuff that isn't useful.

Very good book with easy steps to follow and lots of practice questions.

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