Talking Points: Mathematics Competency Board Rule

What the data is telling us:

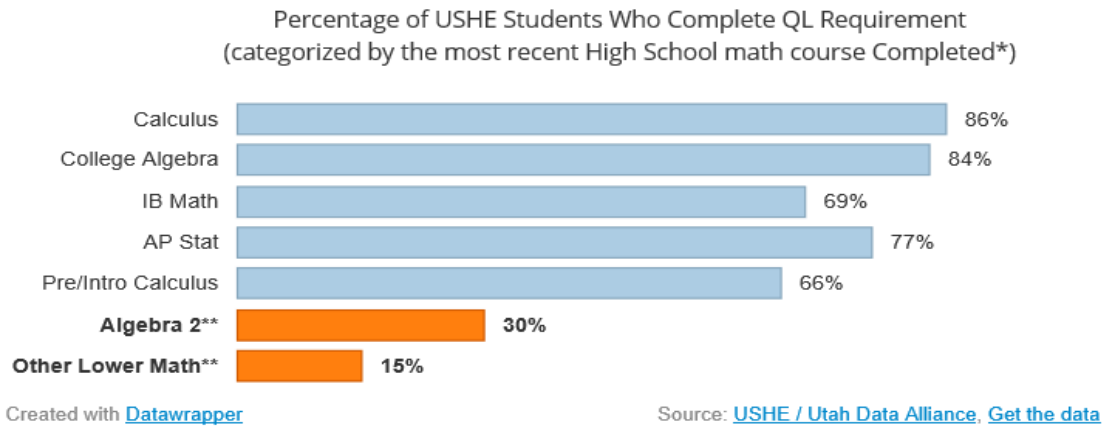
- 79% of students who have four years of high school math earn a college degree in four years or less.
- Completing the general math requirement by the end of the first year of college triples chances of success.
- 40% of Utah college students are placed in developmental courses (USHE).
- Only 15% of students who opt out of Algebra 2 (or Secondary Mathematics III) complete their Quantitative Literacy requirement (a requirement for all four year degrees).

A recent analysis of math success from USHE and data from the Utah State Board of Education, with assistance from the Utah Data Alliance, looks at Utah public high school students who graduated between 2008- 2012 who enrolled at a USHE institution (most recent data available from the Utah State Office of Education). Here are five key findings:

1. Taking math throughout ALL of high school is critical.
2. According to ACT, a majority of USHE first-year freshmen are not considered college ready in Math.
3. Completing the general math requirement by the end of the first year of college triples chances of success.
4. Remedial math, when taken the first year, leads to success.
5. As students' course load increase, so does likelihood of passing college math in the first year of college.

Taking math throughout ALL of high school is critical.

Students who successfully completed high school math beyond Math 3 – or a third year of high school math (completing Algebra 2 under the old high school math curriculum) for their last math class in high school are **twice** as likely to successfully meet their college math requirement (QL requirement).



*High School math courses required during 2008-12 cohort years.
**Current high school requirements (Math 1, 2, 3) cover the same concepts in "Algebra 2" and "Lower Math", as well as some concepts included in Pre-Calculus course curriculum.

Frequently Asked Questions:
Mathematics Competency Board Rule

Assuming a student does want to go to college, and has not completed one of the needed competencies, do they need to enroll in a full year of math as a senior?

Board Rule R277-700-9: Yes, students planning to pursue a college degree after graduation who have not met one of the competencies take a full year mathematics course during the student's senior year of high school.

What can I say to a student who wants to go to college but does not want to take a fourth year of mathematics (and they do not meet the mathematics competency requirement)?

Share data as well as the mathematics competency graduation requirements with stakeholders (students, parents, teachers, community).

What options are available as a fourth year mathematics course?

Potential mathematics classes include any course that counts as a mathematics credit. Course offerings can be found on the Mathematics Graduation Pathways document on the Secondary Mathematics website: http://www.schools.utah.gov/CURR/mathsec/Core/GraduationPathways.aspx
Each LEA/school will determine mathematics course offerings that best meet the needs of their students.

How do students qualify for Concurrent Enrollment courses (for 2017-2018 and beyond)?

<table>
<tr><th></th><th>FY2016-17</th><th>FY2017-18</th></tr>
<tr><td>MATH 1010</td><td colspan="2">Students may place based on the "C" average grades in Secondary Math I, II, and III as noted above OR the ACT Math or placement test score required by the institution offering the course.</td></tr>
<tr><td>MATH 1030</td><td rowspan="3">Students must have both the "C" average grades in Secondary Math I, II, and III AND meet the ACT Math or placement test score required by the offering institution.</td><td rowspan="2">Students must have the "C" average grades in Secondary Math I, II, and III OR meet the ACT Math or placement test score required by the offering institution.</td></tr>
<tr><td>MATH 1040/ STAT 1040</td></tr>
<tr><td>MATH 1050</td><td>Students must have both the "C" average grades in Secondary Math I, II, and III AND meet the ACT Math or placement test score required by the offering institution.</td></tr>
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Will a student be in jeopardy of high school graduation if they fail the fourth year mathematics course they take to meet the competency guidelines?

Board Rule R277-700-6 (graduation requirements): All students graduating from high school are required to complete 3.0 credits of mathematics as stated in Board Rule *R277-700-6*. The mathematics competency requirement is in addition to *R277-700-6* requires a student to take a fourth year of mathematics.