

Policy 6152.1: Placement In Mathematics Courses

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 05/24/2017 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/09/2026

The Governing Board believes that a sound educational program must include the study of subjects that prepare students for admission to higher education and/or fulfilling careers. District students shall be provided an opportunity to complete a sequence of mathematics courses recommended for admission into the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems.

The district shall offer alternative pathways of courses designed in a manner that provides maximum opportunities for students to access advanced mathematics courses during high school.

The Superintendent or designee shall work with district teachers, counselors, and administrators and the representatives of feeder schools to develop a well-articulated sequence of mathematics courses and consistent protocols for placing students in mathematics courses offered at district high schools.

Such placement protocols shall systematically take into consideration multiple objective academic measures that may include, but are not limited to, statewide mathematics assessments, including state interim and summative assessments; placement tests that are aligned to state-adopted content standards in mathematics; classroom assignment and grades; and report cards. (Education Code 51224.7)

District staff shall implement the placement protocols uniformly and without regard to students' socioeconomic background or any characteristic specified in Board Policy 0410 - Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities, including, but not limited to, race, sex, gender, nationality, and ethnicity.

The placement protocols shall provide for at least one reevaluation within the first month of the school year to ensure that students are appropriately placed in mathematics courses and shall specify the criteria the district will use to make this determination. Any student found to be misplaced shall be promptly placed in the appropriate mathematics course.

If a student or parent/guardian questions the student's placement, the student or the student's parent/guardian may appeal the decision to the Superintendent or designee. The decision of the Superintendent or designee shall be final.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all teachers, counselors, and other district staff responsible for determining students' placement in mathematics courses receive training on the placement protocols.

The Board and the Superintendent or designee shall annually review student data related to placement in mathematics courses offered at district high schools to ensure that students who are qualified to progress in mathematics courses based on their performance on objective academic measures are not being held back in a disproportionate manner on the basis of any subjective or discriminatory basis, and shall develop strategies for removing any identified barriers to students' access to mathematics courses. The Superintendent or designee shall also report on the percentage of district students who have successfully completed mathematics courses that satisfy the requirements for entrance to the UC and CSU systems.

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
Ed. Code 200-280	Prohibition of discrimination
Ed. Code 48070.5	Promotion and retention of students
Ed. Code 51220	Course of study for grades 7-12

State

Ed. Code 51224.5	Algebra in course of study for grades 7-12
Ed. Code 51224.7	California Mathematics Placement Act of 2015
Ed. Code 51225.3	High school graduation requirements
Ed. Code 51284	Financial literacy
Ed. Code 52060-52077	Local control and accountability plan
Ed. Code 60605	State-adopted content and performance standards in core curricular areas
Ed. Code 60605.8	Common Core standards
Ed. Code 60640-60648.5	California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

Description**Management Resources**

California Department of Education Publication	California Common Core State Standards: Mathematics, January 2013
California Department of Education Publication	2023 Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, June 2023
California School Board Association Publication	Disproportionality in Math Placement
Common Core State Standards Initiative Publication	Appendix A: Designing High School Mathematics Courses Based on the Common Core State Standards
CSBA Publication	Math Misplacement, Governance Brief, September 2015
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights (LCCR) Pub.	Held Back - Addressing Misplacement of 9th Grade Students in Bay Area School Math Classes, 2013
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area (LCCR)
Website	Northwest Evaluation Association, Measures of Academic Progress
Website	University of California, Mathematics Diagnostic Testing Project
Website	Common Core State Standards Initiative
Website	CSBA
Website	California Department of Education

Description**Cross References**

0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities
0415	Equity
0415	Equity
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
0500	Accountability
1113	District And School Websites
1113	District And School Websites
4131	Staff Development
4131	Staff Development
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
6011	Academic Standards
6141.5	Advanced Placement

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Cross References

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