

# College Prep MATH

Columbus State Community College is proud to partner with Ohio secondary schools to prepare high school students for college-level mathematics with the College Prep Math course.

A lack of proficiency in mathematics can be frustrating for students entering college, and can impede success and degree completion. In fact, one longitudinal study found that less than 25 percent of college students who begin in developmental education finish their degree or certificate (Bailey, 2009). Preparing high school students for college-level math is essential to their college success.

## College Prep Math

To effectively prepare students to leave high school ready for college-level curriculum, the mathematics faculty at Columbus State Community College has designed College Prep Math for high school students.

This program is designed to help students identify the areas they need to strengthen and develop their skills so they are ready for college-level math and equipped for success in college. In addition, they avoid paying tuition for courses that do not apply toward their degree.

## Self-Paced Learning

This innovative approach to learning combines self-paced learning software with on-demand instructor support. Students practice skills in class at their own pace, both at home and in the classroom, using a series of modules that allow them to master concepts that build upon one another. Instructors are available to provide assistance as needed.

College Prep Math students begin in the Basic Math and Pre-algebra curriculum, which provides them an individualized review of foundational mathematics.

Bailey, T. (2009). Challenge and opportunity: Rethinking the role and function of developmental education in community college. <https://doi.org/10.1002cc.352>.





## **Mastery Learning**

College Prep Math is based on the concept of “mastery learning,” which involves practicing a skill until it is learned and can be demonstrated. Students are assessed often to determine if they are retaining what they are learning, and topics are re-presented to the students if mastery is not demonstrated.

## **Why College Prep Math?**

- College Prep Math is completely individualized, so students can spend more time learning topics that are challenging to them and less time on topics they simply need to review. The individualized nature of the program also promotes student accountability for their own progress and success in the course.
- The online learning environment monitors the time students spend learning each topic and progression through the material. It also provides detailed information about how to best assist each individual student.
- Instructors are available during class times to answer questions and guide students.
- On-demand instruction from the teacher is more meaningful when students are ready to apply what they are being taught.
- Teachers are available during class times to provide individual and small-group instruction, and to guide students to adhere to a pace that ensures success in all three pre-college courses within College Prep Math.

## **College Prep Math = College-Ready Skills**

While College Prep Math does not grant college credit, it can result in substantial savings of time and tuition dollars. The pre-college mathematics curriculum is completed in high school, and is offered tuition-free.

Avoiding pre-college math classes in college means students start in classes that apply directly to their chosen major, saving tuition dollars and getting students to their degree more quickly.

For additional information on College Prep Math, visit [csc.edu/collegeprepmath](https://csc.edu/collegeprepmath) or contact the Columbus State Mathematics Department:

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