

Determining Math Placement at Cabrillo College

Students arriving at Cabrillo are required to take placement exams in English, reading and mathematics. The math exams help Cabrillo to place students into algebra classes or transfer-level math (which includes pre-calculus and statistics).

If a student has taken pre-calculus or an equivalent course at a Santa Cruz county high school, it may be listed on the following website:

<http://www.cabrillo.edu/services/hsoutreach/OutreachHome/hsartic2008-2009.html>

If the course is listed, and if the student assesses into transferable math, the student may be placed directly into the specified calculus course upon counselor verification of high school transcripts.

Students who achieve a score of 3, 4 or 5 in AP Calculus do not need to take the math assessment test. AP Calculus AB places directly in Cabrillo's math 5B (2nd semester calculus) and AP Calculus BC places directly into Cabrillo's math 5C (3rd semester calculus). Students must show their AP exam scores to a Cabrillo counselor to be placed into the more advanced calculus courses.

Credit by Exam: Students may gain credit for any transferable math course by exam once they have completed a minimum of 12 units at Cabrillo with a 2.0 minimum GPA. It may be possible to gain credit by exam prior to the completion of 12 units at Cabrillo. This decision is handled on a case by case basis by the Dean of Natural & Applied Sciences.

Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

Students gain college units for AP exams with scores of 3, 4 or 5. These units count toward the 60 semester units required to transfer to four-year universities.

AP exams may be used to fulfill general education requirements for transfer including the IGETC (used by both UC and CSU) and the CSU G.E. (used by CSU).

AP exams may also be used for major preparation, however, how universities use these scores toward the major varies from campus to campus. Cabrillo counselors can assist students regarding how individual UC campuses apply AP exams to their various majors.

IB Exams

Like AP exams, students gain college units for IB exams with scores of 5, 6 or 7 on higher level exams. In addition, a score of 5 or higher will meet the "language other than English" requirement on the IGETC. IB exams have not been approved for any other additional general education requirements for UC or CSU.

IB exams can be used for major preparation, however, there is no common statewide policy on how universities apply IB exams to major courses. Each UC campus lists

how IB exams are used for general education or major preparation at their individual campuses at the following website:

www.universityofcalifornia.edu/educators/counselors/ib