

To: K-12 School Leaders

Subject: An Update from CSUSM about CSU Policy Changes for Incoming First-Year Students

Last fall, [I sent an email](#) sharing information related to a new Executive Order (EO) issued by the California State University (CSU) system. The order, [EO 1110](#), revises the policy for first-year students' placement in English and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses, retires the CSU assessment exams used for course placement, and modifies the Early Start Program. In addition, it eliminates the use of developmental education prerequisites and calls for alternative instructional models to support students in credit-bearing courses.

Recently, the CSU Chancellor's Office has released the new measures that CSU campuses must use to determine student placement in courses and in Early Start. In short, incoming first year students will be placed into one of four categories based on their Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and/or College Level Examination Program (CLEP) scores; SAT and/or ACT scores; California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)/Early Assessment Program (EAP) scores; and high school GPA.

Each of the four categories prescribes a specific pathway to determine a student's course placement:

- **FULFILLED** students have already fulfilled General Education requirements in math and/or English and may enroll in the next level of Mathematics or English, as appropriate for their major.
- **READY** students have demonstrated that they are ready for college level math and/or English.
- **READY WITH SUPPORT** students are required to enroll in general education math and/or English with supported instruction based on major, and the Early Start Program is recommended for them although not required.
- **READY WITH SUPPORT, EARLY START REQUIRED** students are required to enroll in Early Start and must enroll in general education math and/or English with supported instruction based on major.

By mid-May, incoming fall 2018 first-year CSUSM students will receive a personalized e-mail that will tell them which category they have been placed into and what their next steps are to enroll in classes and, if applicable, Early Start.

[Worksheets](#) have been designed to assist our incoming students, their families, and our K-12 partners in understanding the four new pathways to course placement at our university.

If you, your staff, students or families have questions about this new process, please contact CSUSM's Office of Proficiency Services at 760-750-6060 or <http://www.csusm.edu/readiness/>.

Sincerely,

Dawn M. Formo, Ph.D.

Dean of Undergraduate Studies