

Colton Joint Unified School District

Secondary Math Placement FAQ

General Placement Questions	
What is the purpose of math placement?	The goal of the CJUSD math placement is to enroll students in the appropriate math course that is best suited to their needs. The CJUSD Math Placement protocol ensures that all students have equal opportunities for grade level or accelerated course work.
How can I learn more about the CJUSD math pathways?	Math placement information is placed on the secondary education page of the CJUSD website. CLICK HERE to go directly to that page. The page contains the board policy, math pathways, and more.
How many years of math should my student take in high school?	In the California Mathematics Framework it states “Mathematics impacts everyday life, future careers, and good citizenship. A solid foundation in mathematics prepares students for future occupations in fields such as business, medicine, science, engineering, and technology...Success in mathematics education provides students with college and career options and increases prospects for future income.” High school counselors create 4 year math plans with your student in second semester of 8th grade to help equip them with as many options possible for during and after high school.
Regarding MS Math Acceleration Pathway	
What is the MS Math Acceleration Pathway?	The MS Math Acceleration Pathway provides an opportunity for students who are capable of moving through mathematics quickly so they can take college level math classes in high school. Students learn three years of math in two years, which include Math 7, Math 8, and Algebra 1 standards. In 7th grade, the students will be enrolled in 7th grade accelerated math and learn all the Math 7 standards and $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Math 8 standards. In 8th grade, the students will learn the other $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Math 8 standards and all the Algebra 1 standards.
How will my student qualify for the MS Math Acceleration Pathway?	Qualification for the MS Math Acceleration Pathway is based on multiple academic measures: report card grades, benchmark scores, state testing, teacher input, etc. The district sets the placement criteria.
How will I know if my student qualified for the MS Math Acceleration Pathway?	Students will find out if they are in the Math Acceleration Pathway when they receive their schedule for 7th grade during the few days before 7th grade starts.
I can't decide if my student should participate or not. What do you suggest?	Talk with your student. If your student is enjoying math at the level in which they're working, you may prefer not to participate. Pushing too hard or too fast may lead to math burnout and a negative attitude towards math. If your student is feeling as though they're not challenged in current math class and wants more of a challenge next year, then the MS Math Acceleration Pathway may be the right fit for your student.

<p>Can my student move into the MS Math Acceleration Pathway anytime during middle school?</p>	<p>No. Students can only enter at the onset of 7th grade due to the acceleration of learning the standards.</p>
<p>Other</p>	
<p>My student did not qualify for MS Math Acceleration Pathway as a 6th grader. Is there another opportunity for acceleration at a later date?</p>	<p>Yes. Once in high school, if the student has had great success in Algebra 1, during 9th grade, the student may enroll in both Geometry and Algebra 2 as a 10th grader. The student will need to make some other adjustments in their schedule in order to make this happen. See your HS counselor for more information. Another way a student can accelerate is the summer between junior and senior year. Upon successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2, the student can take Precalculus in the summer and if successful, may enroll in AP Calculus AB as a 12th grader.</p>
<p>If my child takes Algebra 1 in 9th grade will he/she be able to attend a 4 year college?</p>	<p>Yes. As long as students complete the math sequence through Algebra 2 with an A-C by graduation, they meet the a-g requirements (for more details on a-g requirements, see your counselor). To be more competitive for the university, students should try to complete Algebra 2 their 11th grade year. Successfully completing Algebra 1 as a 9th grader and Geometry as a 10th grader (with the grades of an A-C) will allow the student to take Algebra 2 as an 11th grader. Additionally, UC schools recommend 4 years of math.</p>
<p>My MS or HS student will be new to the district. How will his/her math placement be determined?</p>	<p>Counselors will place new students with the aligned courses from their prior school. CJUSD HS curriculum follows the traditional path of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2. If a student came from a district that was using Integrated Math curriculum, the courses would align as follows: Integrated Math 1 aligns with Algebra 1, Integrated Math 2 with Geometry, and Integrated Math 3 with Algebra 2.</p>