

According to the Postsecondary Workforce Readiness (PWR) Act, all IL high schools are required to offer a mathematics course at the senior level for those students who are not college ready. The goal of the PWR Act is to keep this identified student population mathematically stimulated during their senior year and thereby reduce the number of students entering community colleges in need of remedial math education.

Transitional math courses can follow three different pathways: STEM, Qualitative Literacy/Statistics, or Technical Math. We plan to follow the Qualitative Literacy/Statistics pathway with our transitional course. This leads to the community college track that most Blue Ridge students identified as not college ready would likely be pursuing and it is also the suggested default pathway.

We propose replacing the current content of Applied Math and using the name Applied Math for the new transitional course. The new course content would be modeled after Parkland College's Math 072 Course and would use the same textbook as Parkland College. At Parkland College, this class is one semester in length; our course would be one year in length. The course will be guided by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will be created in collaboration with Parkland College by the end of this semester.

Students enrolled in Applied Math who have already received their third math credit will be eligible for the placement portability code on their high school transcript. This means that they will be guaranteed placement into a credit-bearing math course, without further placement testing, at Parkland College, for an enrollment period of 18 months after high school graduation. Additionally, it is expected that by the 2020/2021 school year that the guaranteed math placement into a credit-bearing math course will be extended to include **all** IL community colleges and any accepting IL universities, for an enrollment period of 18 months after high school graduation.

Students who have not completed their third math credit towards graduation will be able to enroll in this course; with successful completion, they would receive their third math credit towards their high school graduation requirement. No student can receive both math credit towards their graduation requirement and the math placement portability code.

Part of our consideration included the possibility of offering one section of the current Applied Math content and one section of the new transitional math content. Historically, the majority of the students enrolled in Applied Math have been seniors who have already earned their third math credit. If two different courses were offered, it is projected that the enrollment for the course using the current Applied Math content would be extremely low and that the course may, over time, decrease in rigor. Therefore, we recommend that the current Applied Math course no

longer be offered, but replaced with the transitional math content which satisfies the requirements of the PWR Act.

Following is the course catalog wording for Applied Math:

Applied Math

1 unit

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Minimum of two math credits

In this course students will use a group-based inquiry format to explore the following topics: relationships shown by data across a variety of situations, normal distributions, standards of deviation, linear and nonlinear relationships, and their resulting graphs. Technology will be used on a regular basis. Students who enter the course with two math credits and who successfully complete this course will receive their third math credit towards their graduation requirement. Students who have already completed their third math graduation credit will, upon successful completion, receive the transitional math placement portability code* on their high school diploma. A student cannot receive both their third math graduation credit and the transitional math placement portability code. Students are encouraged to have a TI-84+ graphing calculator for this course.

*Students receiving the transitional math placement portability code on their diploma will be able to enroll directly into a credit-bearing math course at Parkland Community College. No placement test will be required. Placement is good for 18 months. In forthcoming years, the math placement portability code will be honored at all IL community colleges and any accepting IL universities.