



March 21, 2017

To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Bill Gary, Chair
Committee on Preparatory Education

Re: Proposal to Use AP Calculus AB Exam Score "2" for Placement into MATH 005

The Committee on Preparatory Education reviewed a request from the Department of Mathematics to use the AP calculus AB Exam score of "2" for placement into MATH 005 with a Fall 2017 effective term. The Committee voted unanimously to support this proposal.

Attachment: Department of Mathematics Proposal to Use AP Calculus AB Exam Score of "2" for Placement into MATH 005

February 8, 2017

FROM: Department of Mathematics

TO: The Committee on Preparatory Education

RE: **Proposal to Use AP Calculus AB Exam Score of “2” for Placement into Math 5**

The AP Exam is scored on a 5-point scale which reflects how “qualified” a student is to obtain college credit for a particular course. The grading scale as published by The College Board is as follows:

5 = extremely well qualified

4 = well qualified

3 = qualified

2 = possibly qualified

1 = no recommendation

Presently at UCR, a score of 3 or higher on the AB Exam grants a student credit for Math 9A.

In addition to using the AP Exam as a basis for course credit, some universities, including two UC campuses, are also using the AP AB Exam score of “2” as a placement tool.

At UC San Diego and UC Santa Barbara, a score of “2” places a student into first-quarter calculus, equivalent to our Math 9A.

While a student who earns a score of “2” could possibly be placed into Math 9A and be successful, we are taking a more conservative approach by placing that student into Math 5, our regular one-quarter pre-calculus course. (The student could still be placed into Math 9A by obtaining a sufficiently high score on our Placement Exam.)

A student who obtains a score of “2” has already taken at least differential calculus in high school and has performed sufficiently well to earn the designation “possibly qualified” for college credit. Since most calculus operations require knowledge of algebra and trigonometry, we believe that a student with a score of “2” should already be proficient in such skills to be successful in Math 5.

Therefore, we are proposing to the Committee on Preparatory Education to use the AP Calculus AB Exam score of “2” for placement into Math 5 effective fall 2017.