With only one “track” of mathematics courses, it is imperative that students at The Preuss School UCSD be placed in the correct math class. Students are required to take mathematics in every year of their schooling, with the goal of having every student surpass the math requirement of both the CSU and UC systems. A student who is successful in every mathematics class will have the choice of either Calculus or AP Statistics in 12th grade. Placement decisions are based on data collected from multiple sources which include: grade in current course, final exam grade, diagnostic test score and score on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) exam (where appropriate).

Placement in 6th grade math: All incoming 6th graders take a diagnostic test in May for baseline data. Students who score 36 out of 40 or better are placed into Math 7. Students who earn significantly low scores are also registered into a mathematics support class (Math Enrichment 6).

Placement in 7th grade math:

Placement in Math 7 can be achieved by one of the following:

- Passing the Math 6 final exam
- Earning a score of “Met Standard” or “Exceeded Standard” on the grade 6 CAASPP test
- Earning a passing grade in both Math 6 and the Math 7 diagnostic test
- Earning a passing grade in Math 6 along with a teacher recommendation to move to Math 7 (student may also be placed concurrently in Math Enrichment 7)

Placement in Integrated Math I (IM 1):

Placement in IM 1 can be achieved by one of the following:

- Passing the Math 7 final exam
- Earning a score of “Met Standard” or “Exceeded Standard” on the grade 7 CAASPP test
- Earning a passing grade in both Math 7 and the IM 1 diagnostic test
- Earning a passing grade in Math 7 along with a teacher recommendation to move to IM 1 (student may also be placed concurrently in Math Enrichment 8)

Placement in Integrated Math II (IM 2):

Placement in IM 2 can be achieved by one of the following:

- Passing the IM 1 final exam
- Earning a score of “Met Standard” or “Exceeded Standard” on the grade 8 CAASPP test
- Earning a passing grade in both IM 1 and the IM 2 diagnostic test
- Earning a passing grade in IM 1 along with a teacher recommendation to move to IM 2 (student may also be placed concurrently in High School Math Enrichment)
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Placement in Integrated Math III (IM 3):
Placement in IM 3 can be achieved by one of the following:

- Passing the IM 2 final exam
- Earning a passing grade in both IM 2 and the IM 3 diagnostic test
- Earning a passing grade in IM 2 along with a teacher recommendation to move to IM 3 (student may also be placed concurrently in High School Math Enrichment)

Placement in Precalculus:
Placement in Precalculus can be achieved by one of the following:

- Passing the IM 3 final exam
- Earning a score of “Met Standard” or “Exceeded Standard” on the grade 11 CAASPP test
- Earning a passing grade in both IM 3 and the Precalculus diagnostic test
- Earning a passing grade in IM 3 along with a teacher recommendation to move to Precalculus (student may also be placed concurrently in High School Math Enrichment)

Placement in Calculus or AP Statistics:
Placement in Calculus or AP Statistics can be achieved by achieving a passing score in any two of the following:

- Precalculus final course grade
- Precalculus final exam
- Calculus diagnostic test
- Grade 11 CAASPP test

Throughout the year, but especially within the first three weeks of school, student progress is gauged by the teacher. If a student is found to be misplaced, then that student shall be placed in the correct math course as soon as possible. Data such as tests scores in the current course, an administered diagnostic test or final exam and/or prior teacher recommendation may be used to aid in the decision-making process.