One of the troublesome aspects of the transition from school to college mathematics is the placement of students in the first college mathematics course. Placement is complicated by several factors including a lack of standardization of placement methods and the numerous possible first courses. Implementation of the Common Core standards and work by the MAA’s placement testing task force show promise of easing the difficulties of and making more effective placement in college mathematics. This will be a report of MAA’s ongoing placement test work that is based on research results on what students need to understand in order to succeed in precalculus and calculus. Connections to and consistency with the Common Core standards will be noted. (Received September 09, 2011)