
The University of Colorado at Boulder has a “Minimum Academic Preparation Standard” (MAPS) for mathematics of four years of high school coursework, including at least as far as Algebra II. However, students can be, and are, admitted without having met this standard. However, all mathematics coursework offered by the campus includes prerequisites which assume the preparation standard has been met; there are no remedial or developmental courses offered.

The purpose of this study is to compare the performance in entry level mathematics coursework of students who have not met the mathematics MAPS requirement with students who have met the requirement. The different levels of high school background among students who have met the MAPS requirement will be considered. The classes which will be considered are all Fall 2009 and Fall 2010 sections of both a College Algebra course and a Quantitative Reasoning course. (Received September 20, 2011)