Jeff Bay and Maria Siopsis*, 502 East Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville, TN 37803. Get ready: A competency-based path to avoiding the developmental mathematics course using Khan Academy. Preliminary report.

While developmental mathematics courses are often required of students before they are allowed to enroll in college-level mathematics or science courses many students complain that the material is review of familiar content that is covered at a pace they feel is slower than necessary. From the student perspective, these courses slow down progress towards a major or graduation, often unnecessarily. We describe a competency-based process using Khan Academy and an in-house online placement test that allows students to show readiness for college-level math courses before arriving on campus as first-year students. The approach requires a relatively small amount of college resources, including time and effort on the part of college faculty. Additionally, it may encourage early self-reliance and student responsibility for college success. We present the preliminary results of this process on incoming first year students, including their ability to succeed in a general education introductory statistics course and their retention at the college. (Received September 15, 2014)