

At the end of the Fall 2014 semester, the Math Department faculty at Owensboro Community & Technical College offered students an intensive, one-week math boot camp to finish the requirements for the developmental math class they were enrolled in that semester. At the end of the week, students would be able to take the COMPASS Algebra test and place into a corresponding math class based on their scores. Eleven students enrolled in the boot camp, which used EdReady as the core intervention. At the end of the week, the students re-took the COMPASS exam; 9 of the 11 students moved up in their math placement level, including 7 who tested into college math.

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

Owensboro Community & Technical College (OCTC) is a public, two-year college that is one of the sixteen institutions that make up the Kentucky Community & Technical College System (KCTCS). OCTC awards associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates in a variety of disciplines. They serve approximately 4,300 students, mostly from the surrounding Daviess and Ohio counties. More than half the students attend part time (57%), and more than half are female (58%).

IMPLEMENTATION

OCTC faculty identified students in their Math 065 Basic Algebra course who were short only one or two modules to complete the course. Those students were invited to attend a four-day math boot camp in an on-campus lab. Students spent four hours each day in EdReady. They worked through the initial EdReady diagnostic to determine what content they had mastered and where they had knowledge gaps, then engaged the EdReady study resources to learn the specific math concepts they were missing. A math instructor was available in the lab to facilitate, attending to students on an as-needed basis. On the fifth and final day of the class, the students took the COMPASS exam.



DETAILS

WHO WAS SERVED: Community college students who had been enrolled in a semester-long developmental math class but still needed to master a few modules to complete the class

WHEN: Right after the fall term ended

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 11

IMPLEMENTATION: On-campus math boot camp comprised of four days of immersion in EdReady (four hours per day); on the fifth day, students sat for the COMPASS exam

RESULTS: 90% of students (9 of 10) who retested moved up at least one math class level; 70% (7 of 10) moved into college math while 20% (2 of 10) moved up to the next level of developmental math; one stayed at the same level. The 11th student did not retake COMPASS.

INSTRUCTIONAL APPLICATION:

Face-to-face, on-campus intensive one-week boot camp using EdReady to move students out of developmental math

“My college was ecstatic. You saw the gains—they were phenomenal!”

—Donna Butler, Academic Affairs Coordinator for OCTC

RESULTS

Eleven students enrolled in the boot camp, and 10 took the COMPASS exam on the last day of camp. Seven of the 10 earned a score of 36 or higher on the COMPASS, allowing them to skip Math 085 and enroll directly into Math 150/100, the first credit-bearing, college-level math course offered at OCTC. Two students placed into the higher-level developmental math course (Math 085). One student stayed at the Math 065 level.

WHAT'S NEXT

Due to the success of the camp, Butler said OCTC is currently planning to offer continuous math boot camps throughout the year, and to follow this first group of students to determine how successful they are in their next math class. ■

**If a student scores 100 points, he or she has achieved 100% mastery of all of the content in the curriculum for his or her class.*

