

## Introduction

One of the Achieving the Dream (AtD) objectives is to increase the percentage of students who successfully complete gatekeeper courses. The AtD initiative defines gatekeeper courses as *first level curricular courses that students must pass before enrolling in more advanced courses in their major field*. Academic Affairs identified the six gatekeeper courses that are featured in this Fact Sheet.

One measure of the effectiveness of CCP's AtD initiatives is tracking student success over time in the six CCP gatekeeper courses. Fact Sheet # 17a assesses the success of first-time CCP students in fall 2008 gatekeeper courses by comparing their course outcomes with the outcomes achieved by their predecessors. Final course grades of A, B, C and P are considered successful course outcomes.

Overall, success rates across all gatekeeper courses were higher in fall 2008 than in the preceding fall terms ( see Fact Sheet #17a at <http://www.ccp.edu/VPFIN-PL/ir/atd/parity.htm>). Nearly 60% of the gatekeeper course grades awarded to the fall 2008 cohort were grades of A, B, C or P. The increase in fall 2008 course success rates was across all gatekeeper courses and was most pronounced in Math 118. With the exception of Math 118, success rates tended to be greater in college-level courses than in developmental courses.

## Gatekeeper Pass Rates - Gender within Race

Table 1, which drills-down into this information, contains percentages of A, B, C and P grades earned by first-time students in fall 2008 gatekeeper courses disaggregated by gender within race categories. For comparison purposes, Table 2 contains the same set of information for first-time students in fall 2004 through fall 2007 semesters. Percentages in Table 1 that appear in red indicate a lower success level than in preceding semesters while the black font indicates greater levels of success for the student group in the most recent fall semester.

Black and White male students in fall 2008 were more successful than their predecessors. As a group, White male students in 2008 experienced more successful gatekeeper course outcomes than White male students in previous fall terms across all six courses. Black male students in fall 2008 were also more successful across most courses, the exception was Math 118. By comparison, Black female students in fall 2008 were more successful than earlier cohorts in just two of the six courses. The same was true for Latina students.

Looking within the fall 2008 cohort, female students, regardless of race, tended to achieve greater levels of successful course outcomes than males. The exception was Biology 106 in which three of the male groups outperformed their female counterparts.

## Gatekeeper Pass Rates - Gender within Race

**Table 1: Percent of Students Passing With A, B, C or P Grade  
Fall 2008 First Time Cohort**

	Female				Male				Institutional Average
	Asian	Black	White	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Hispanic	
Math 017	90%	51%	72%	70%	64%	42%	69%	59%	57.8%
Math 118	70%	47%	69%	48%	61%	44%	62%	59%	55.1%
English 098	76%	53%	68%	57%	73%	49%	65%	40%	56.1%
English 101	94%	62%	78%	62%	86%	68%	73%	44%	70.0%
Biology 106	75%	71%	80%	50%	100%	67%	91%	91%	73.6%
CIS* 103	100%	74%	73%	62%	89%	67%	74%	63%	73.5%

**Table 2: Percent of Students Passing With A, B, C or P Grade  
Fall 2004, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, and Fall 2007 First Time Cohorts**

	Female				Male				Institutional Average
	Asian	Black	White	Hispanic	Asian	Black	White	Hispanic	
Math 017	72%	54%	66%	57%	69%	42%	55%	41%	55.6%
Math 118	67%	55%	60%	47%	66%	47%	55%	54%	53.6%
English 098	66%	55%	71%	58%	57%	44%	56%	53%	56.2%
English 101	77%	63%	76%	72%	59%	59%	71%	70%	69.0%
Biology 106	88%	66%	87%	85%	78%	63%	73%	92%	74.3%
CIS* 103	78%	62%	79%	79%	64%	55%	73%	79%	67.7%

\* Computer Information Systems