

EXECUTIVE PREPARATORY ACADEMY OF FINANCE MATH PLACEMENT POLICY 2016-2017

This policy of the Executive Preparatory Academy of Finance (the “Charter School”) Board of Directors (“Board”) has been adopted to establish a fair, objective, and transparent protocol for placement in mathematics courses for students entering 9th grade, in order to ensure the success of every student and to meet the Legislative intent of the California Mathematics Placement Act of 2015. This policy is effective as of the beginning of the 2016-2017 academic year.

1. In determining the mathematics course placement for incoming 9th grade students, the Charter School systematically takes multiple objective academic measures of student performance into consideration that may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Statewide mathematics assessments, including any interim and summative assessments through the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (“CAASPP”);
 - b. Placement tests that are aligned to state-adopted content standards in mathematics;
 - c. Recommendation, if available, of each student’s 8th grade mathematics teacher based on classroom assignments and grades;
 - d. Final grade in mathematics on the student’s official, end of the year 8th grade report card;
 - e. Results from all placement checkpoints, including at least one (1) placement checkpoint within the first month of the school year as described in Section 3, below.
2. When a student does not qualify to be enrolled in a higher-level mathematics course based on a consideration of the objective measures specified above, he/she may nevertheless be admitted to the course based on the recommendation of a teacher or counselor who has personal knowledge of the student’s academic ability.
3. The Charter School will provide at least one (1) placement checkpoint within the first month of the school year to ensure accurate placement and permit reevaluation of individual student progress. All mathematics teachers responsible for teaching 9th grade students will assess the mathematics placements for each 9th grade student assigned to the teacher’s mathematics class. The teacher’s assessment will take into consideration factors which may include, but are not limited to, the student’s classroom assignments, quizzes, tests, exams, classroom participation, and any comments provided by the student, the student’s parent/legal guardian, and/or the student’s other teachers regarding the student’s mathematics course placement. Any student, found to be misplaced by the teacher and Charter School Principal, shall be placed in the appropriate mathematics course by the Charter School.

4. The Charter School Principal, or his or her designee, shall examine aggregate student placement data annually to ensure that students who are qualified to progress in mathematics courses based on their performance on objective academic measures included in Section 1 of this policy are not held back in a disproportionate manner on the basis of their race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background. The Charter School shall annually report the aggregate results of this review to the Charter School Board.

The Charter School offers clear and timely recourse for each student and his or her parent or legal guardian who questions the student's placement. If a student disagrees with a placement, the student (or the parent/guardian on the student's behalf) shall be able to submit a written appeal to the Charter School Principal. The Charter School's Principal contact information is: 2814 W. Manhattan Beach Blvd. Gardena, CA 90249.

5. The Principal or his or her designee shall use objective measures, such as the measures described in Section 1, to determine if a student's placement was appropriate. The Principal or his or designee shall make a decision on the appeal and such decision will be final.
6. Charter School staff shall implement this policy and placement practices uniformly and without regard to students' race, sex, gender, nationality, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, or other subjective or discriminatory consideration.
7. This policy is adopted pursuant to the Mathematics Placement Act of 2015, enacted as Education Code Section 51224.7.