

Math professor Connie Booker of Kentucky's Owensboro Community & Technical College has been using EdReady to quickly remediate incoming students so they can get into credit-bearing math classes far faster than they could in the traditional "test-once-and-place" approach.

## Background

Prior to 2013, new students arriving at Owensboro Community and Technical College would take a math placement test (Compass or KYOTE, the Kentucky Online Test) that put them either into a credit-bearing math class or into a remedial sequence that could take as long as three semesters to complete.

In 2013, at the end of the fall semester, the faculty at Owensboro tried using EdReady in a boot-camp setting for students who had taken, but not completed, the first remedial class, MAT 65 (pre-algebra). Most of those boot camp students not only completed the class, but did well enough on the post-test to skip the next remedial class, MAT 85 (intermediate algebra) altogether and go straight into either MAT 146 (Contemporary College Mathematics) or MAT 150 (College Algebra). Passing one of those two courses allows non-STEM students to meet the math requirement for graduation with an associate's degree.

After a few more semesters of successful boot camps, the faculty decided to pilot an EdReady co-requisite implementation that moved the boot camp hours into three weeks at the front of a one-semester course that combined MAT 96 (Supplemental Mathematics) and MAT 126 (Technical Algebra and Trigonometry).

## Implementation

Students were placed into the pilot class based on adjusted KYOTE scores. The pilot class met for 2.25 hours per class twice per week. During each class, Booker lectured for half the class, then students spent the second half of the class working on EdReady individually on computers in the lab, with Booker and a tutor on site to offer assistance. Students were also able to access EdReady at home and work on it independently.

They followed this routine for the first three weeks – the MAT 96 portion – of the course.

"Their score on EdReady was their grade for the MAT 96 portion of the course," Booker explained. Following those first three weeks, students took the KYOTE exam. Their scores on that post-test would determine their next step.

"They knew that if they placed high [on the KYOTE], they could skip MAT 126 entirely and jump right into MAT 146 or MAT 150. That was motivation," she says.

That motivation paid off in Fall of 2017 when, after just three weeks, 85% of the students were able to advance straight into MAT 146 or MAT 150.

"If they pass the MAT 96 with a high enough score, they are dropped from MAT 126 and move immediately into MAT 146 or MAT 150, both of which are online classes. Even though other students in that class may be three or four weeks into the semester, the students who are newly transferred in can still start at the beginning of the class and work forward." However, Booker stipulates that the transfer students must continue to come into the lab to work on the online class so she can work with them to keep them moving forward. She can also administer and proctor their tests that way.

"This product is very good in a boot-camp or co-requisite curriculum," said Booker about EdReady.

## What's Next

Following the success of the pilot, more courses using EdReady, including courses using EdReady as a co-requisite, have been added at Owensboro.



### DETAILS

**WHO WAS SERVED:** College students needing math remediation

**WHEN:** Fall 2016 to present

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** 198

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Three-week co-requisite implementation in a computer lab setting

**INSTRUCTIONAL APPLICATION:** On-campus lab with instructor lectures and over-the-shoulder guidance while online.

*"We save these students 1 year, 2 courses, and 6 credit hours from our traditional pathway"*

*-- Connie Booker,  
Professor of  
Mathematics*