

Response to Questions on the FY 2014 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Cook

Question: Please provide updated information regarding FCPS students' preparation for college level courses, including the Pathways to Baccalaureate Program.

Response: The following response was prepared by Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS):

About 80 percent of FCPS high school graduates enroll in two- or four-year colleges and universities that are included in the National Clearing House database (see ATTACHMENT A, a bar graph representing those students part of the National Clearing House cohort having taken key high school courses in preparation for college). The National Clearing House does not have data on the other 20 percent of our graduates. Many private colleges do not participate in the Clearing House. Also note that the data does not track enrollment in post-graduate technical training or the military.

Of the graduates FCPS is able to track, approximately 74 percent attend four-year institutions and 26 percent attend two-year institutions. Less than 1 percent of those attending the four-year colleges enroll in courses that would be considered "remedial" or less than freshman level courses. Of those attending the two-year institutions, for which the majority attend Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA), anywhere from 20 percent to 40 percent enroll in courses that would be considered "remedial" or less than freshman level courses. Please see ATTACHMENT B, data from the COMPASS (NOVA's placement testing system) Placement Results for Fall 2011.

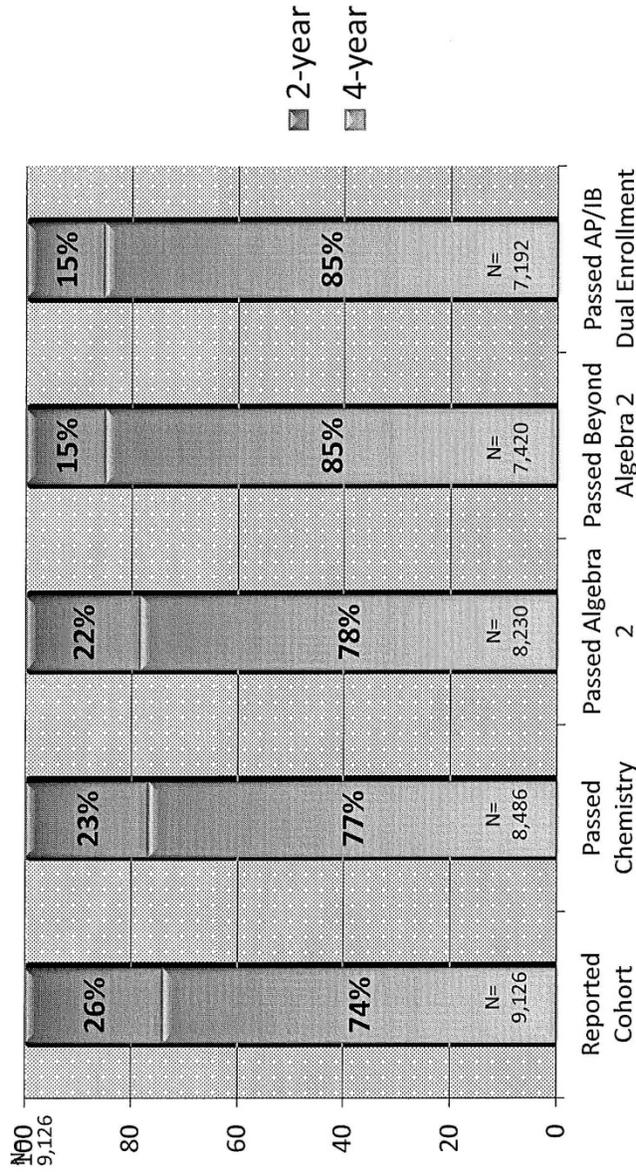
Beginning the summer of 2012, NOVA altered the process for determining "remediation" needs for mathematics. With these testing updates, NOVA began using a methodology where "remediation" was given in mathematics for only those units where students demonstrated deficiencies, instead of requiring an entire course to be completed. FCPS has not yet received data from NOVA on this new process, but anecdotal comments from NOVA staff report that the "remediation" rates have significantly dropped.

Under the Umbrella of FCPS' College Success programs, the Pathway to the Baccalaureate program began in 2005. Pathway to the Baccalaureate is a cooperative program between FCPS, NOVA, and George Mason University. This program identifies students in the 12th grade who may be at risk and guides them from high school graduation, through an associate degree at NOVA, and on to a baccalaureate degree at George Mason University. The students are treated as a cohort while on the college campuses with activities and training designed specifically for their needs. The program director and NOVA counselors work with FCPS counselors, students and parents to achieve success. A full program description of the Pathway Program and all College Success programs can be accessed beginning on page 164 of the FY 2013 Program Budget: <http://www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/documents/approved/FY13/FY2013ProgramBudget.pdf>.

ATTACHMENT C shows that the associate degree graduation rate for this program is double the normal NOVA graduate rate. It is clear this program has been highly successful.

Rigor of High School Courses and College/University Enrollment

High School Courses by Enrollment in Two- or Four-Year Colleges/Universities



Percent of Reported 2011 FCPS Graduates, National Student Clearinghouse, April 2012

Fairfax County School Division
COMPASS Placement Results for Test Participants Only
Fall 2011

	Reading				Writing				Math			
	College Ready		Placed into Devl		College Ready		Placed into Devl		College Ready		Placed into Devl	
Annandale High	101	67%	50	33%	75	50%	76	50%	48	32%	102	68%
Bryant Alternative High	6	55%	5	45%	4	36%	7	64%	2	20%	8	80%
Centreville High	46	68%	22	32%	36	53%	32	47%	23	29%	57	71%
Chantilly High	48	62%	30	38%	39	50%	39	50%	23	30%	54	70%
Edison High	65	71%	26	29%	44	48%	47	52%	10	11%	83	89%
Fairfax High	65	72%	25	28%	42	47%	48	53%	29	29%	70	71%
Falls Church High	44	58%	32	42%	29	38%	47	62%	15	20%	61	80%
Hayfield High	62	60%	42	40%	49	47%	55	53%	19	17%	91	83%
Herndon High	54	72%	21	28%	40	53%	35	47%	22	28%	58	73%
Lake Braddock High	51	69%	23	31%	30	41%	44	59%	23	29%	57	71%
Langley High	11	79%	3	21%	5	36%	9	64%	13	65%	7	35%
Madison High	30	88%	4	12%	24	71%	10	29%	14	44%	18	56%
Marshall High	32	70%	14	30%	25	54%	21	46%	20	43%	27	57%
McClean High	32	78%	9	22%	28	68%	13	32%	15	34%	29	66%
Mount Vernon High	53	66%	27	34%	30	38%	50	63%	11	17%	54	83%
Mountain View Alternative High	12	67%	6	33%	8	44%	10	56%	3	15%	17	85%
Oakton High	37	77%	11	23%	24	50%	24	50%	20	37%	34	63%
Pimmit Hills Alternative High	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	.
Robert E. Lee High-(Fairfax)	72	72%	28	28%	54	54%	46	46%	17	17%	84	83%
Robinson High	62	73%	23	27%	46	54%	39	46%	18	20%	74	80%
South County High	41	71%	17	29%	31	53%	27	47%	12	22%	43	78%
South Lakes High	47	70%	20	30%	33	49%	34	51%	16	22%	58	78%
Stuart High	49	60%	32	40%	39	48%	42	52%	14	18%	64	82%
Thomas Jefferson High-(Fairfax)	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	.
West Potomac High	50	66%	26	34%	37	49%	39	51%	18	23%	60	77%
West Springfield High	51	74%	18	26%	34	49%	35	51%	29	38%	48	62%
Westfield High	67	71%	27	29%	48	51%	46	49%	16	16%	84	84%
Woodson High	35	70%	15	30%	24	48%	26	52%	26	46%	30	54%



PATHWAY
to the

BACCALAUREATE

PROGRAM FACT SHEET

2011-12 ACADEMIC YEAR

OUR MISSION

Since 2005, the Pathway to the Baccalaureate Program has facilitated access to a baccalaureate higher education for Northern Virginia high school graduates who have both the desire and the capacity to achieve a baccalaureate degree, but whose likelihood of academic success and access to higher education would be significantly enhanced by receiving the special support and structural guidance provided by the Pathway Program. The program provides an environment for a smooth transition and increased retention of students from high school, through Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA), to George Mason University or another university of the student's choice.

WHAT WE DO

The Pathway to the Baccalaureate Program provides support to students as they make the transition from high school to NOVA, throughout NOVA, and as they transfer from NOVA to George Mason or another university. Our interventions include:

- One-on-one meetings with a Pathway Counselor to prepare for college transition at participating high schools during the regular school day
- Regular workshops on college transition issues, including the application process, placement test preparation and applying for financial aid and scholarships
- Early placement testing and priority registration on-site at participating high schools
- Learning community/cohort courses and programming at NOVA and George Mason
- Over \$1 million in grant and scholarship funding dedicated to program participants
- Participation in academic, social, athletic and cultural events and early co-enrollment opportunities at NOVA and George Mason University
- Designated program counselors on campus use one-stop, case management model to guide students through all aspects of their college careers
- Assistance with each step of transferring to a four-year college or university
- Early, guaranteed admission at George Mason

OUR SCHOOLS

In 2011-12, Pathway will operate in 48 high schools in all eight local school systems across Northern Virginia. College-matriculated Pathway students attend all six campuses of NOVA and the Fairfax campus of George Mason University, as well as many other four-year colleges and universities across the United States.

OUR STUDENTS

Nearly 6500 students are expected to participate in Pathway in the 2011-12 academic year. Of these, 93% have historically met one or more US Department of Education criteria known to adversely affect persistence in college. Please see page two of this document for more specific student information including student demographic data.

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT DATA (COHORTS 1-5)

- 85% of students transition from high school directly into post-secondary education
- 12% of students transition directly from high school into a four-year institution
- 90% of students at NOVA are retained from the first to the second semester
- 81% of students at NOVA are retained from year-to-year
- 73% of students are in good academic standing after the first semester
- 98% of students earn college credit in the first year
- Associate-level graduation rate is nearly double NOVA's average
- Students exceed both college and national benchmarks in all measured outcomes¹

¹ For more detailed information/outcomes data, please visit our website: www.nvcc.edu/pathway

OUR PARTNERSHIP

NOVA

Northern Virginia
Community College

GEORGE
MASON
UNIVERSITY

AJCIPIS
ADVANCING THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Arlington
Public
Schools

FC
PS

FALLS CHURCH CITY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Prince William County
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Providing A World-Class Education

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