

# Developmental FAQ

## For Advisors

### What is LSM?

LSM stands for Learning Support, Math. The LSM courses are MATH 0810, MATH 0820 and MATH0830. Students placed in LSM will register for MATH 0810. Students that complete the minimum requirements, but do not finish all course content, will register for MATH 0820 or MATH0830 the following semester. Those students that need to finish only one module will sign up for MATH0830; those needing to finish two modules will register for MATH0820 to finish the remaining LSM coursework.

### How does LSM work?

Students that need developmental math will register for MATH 0810. Throughout the duration of the course, students will work through each section, called modules, one at a time, in order. For each module, students will begin by taking a pre-test. Those scoring 80% or higher will move to the next module. Those scoring less than 80% will work through homework, a critical thinking assignment, a cumulative homework assignment, a practice test, and a post-test, in that order. Students must obtain a minimum grade on each assignment before moving to the next assignment. Students must obtain 75% on the post-test, to show mastery of the concepts in the module, before moving on to the next module. Each module focuses on different content that is essential for students to be successful in college level mathematics. Students that complete the minimum requirements, but do not finish all course content, will register for MATH 0820 or MATH0830 the following semester to finish the remaining LSM coursework (see above for descriptions)

### How does LSM differ from DSPM?

LSM focuses on building students' skills so that they can be successful in college level mathematics and their careers, where as DSPM focuses on remediation of skills that students do not remember or did not obtain in high school. The delivery method for LSM is designed for more active learning on the part of the student and more one-on-one interaction between student and instructor. Additionally, LSM is designed so that each student can work at their pace through the material. Although students can work at their own pace, in order to complete the required three modules within a term, they are expected to complete and pass at least 3 to 5 assignments per week.

### Should I tell students to register for LSM or DSPM?

This depends on where students are in developmental math studies.

- Students that have not completed any DSPM courses should register for MATH 0810. It is possible that they can complete all course material within one semester.
- Students that have completed DSPM 0700 have a choice of taking DSPM 0800 or MATH 0810.
- Students that have completed DSPM 0800 and need to take DSPM 0850 should complete the DSPM series. Remember that the DSPM 0850 prerequisite has changed for several college-level math courses.

### Will MATH 0810 transfer to other schools?

LSM courses will transfer to all TBR institutions in the same manner that the current DSPM courses do. For schools not in the TBR system, as with any course, the college or university that you are transferring to has the decision of accepting transfer credits. Nashville State has a description of the content contained in each module that other schools can use to determine

which course or courses are equivalent to MATH 0810, 0820 and 0830.

### **Can students test out of LSM?**

Beginning spring 2011, students may challenge placement once. If students do not score high enough on the placement exam to test out of LSM, they must register for MATH 0810. However, students can test out of sections or parts of LSM by passing a pre-test for each module.

### **Can students take LSM courses at off campus sites? When will they become available at other campuses?**

In Summer 2011, all NSCC campuses will be offering both DSPM and LSM courses as LSM is phased in and DSPM is phased out.

In Fall 2011, DSPM courses will be completely phased out and all campuses will be offering sections of LSM at their sites.

### **What are the course IDs for LSM?**

LSM courses are under MATH instead of DSPM or LSM. The first course is MATH 0810. The second course is either MATH 0820 or MATH0830, which is a continuation of MATH 0810.

### **How many credits are LSM courses?**

MATH 0810 is 3 credit hours each.

MATH0820 is 2 credit hours, and

MATH0830 is 1 credit hour.

### **What happens if a student does not finish LSM in the required timeframe?**

This depends on how many modules a student completes. A student completing less than 3 modules will fail the course and must retake MATH 0810.

A student completing more than 3 modules and less than 5 modules will receive a passing grade for MATH 0810 and register for MATH 0820 or MATH0830 the following semester. Those students that need to finish only one module will sign up for MATH0830; those needing to finish two modules will register for MATH0820 to finish the remaining LSM coursework.

A student will not need to redo the modules that were successfully completed, but will continue working where they left off.

### **Where can I find more information about LSM?**

Information about LSM and MATH 0810 is found on the LSM website. You can find answers to your questions or contact information of those that can answer your questions. The website is [ww2.nsc.edu/LSM](http://ww2.nsc.edu/LSM). You may contact Christina Weston ([Christina.weston@nsc.edu](mailto:Christina.weston@nsc.edu) or 615-353-3495), Michelle Van Wagoner ([Michelle.vanwagoner@nsc.edu](mailto:Michelle.vanwagoner@nsc.edu) or 615-353-3278), Eli Nettles ([Eli.nettles@nsc.edu](mailto:Eli.nettles@nsc.edu) or 615-353-3253), or Dean Jennifer Knapp ([Jennifer.knapp@nsc.edu](mailto:Jennifer.knapp@nsc.edu) or 615-353-3237) if you have additional questions.