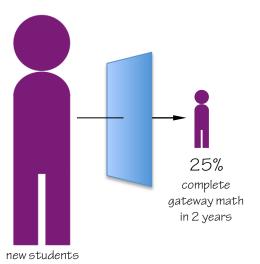
## Gateway Math – Portal or Barrier?

*Gateway math* refers to the first math course a college student must complete to satisfy her or his program requirements. National research shows rapid completion of gateway math is among the best predictors of overall college success, suggesting that math prepares students to succeed in other areas, but also that delays in completing math can be a barrier to completing college.

Only 25% of Lane's new students

complete gateway math within 2 years<sup>1</sup>. 13% place at complete gateway level 73% x 13% = 10% of cohort34% place 1 or 2 levels below 32% gateway complete in 2 years 32% x 34% = 11% of cohort 8% 52% complete place 3 in 2 years or more levels below 8% x 52% gateway = 4% of cohort overall 2-year completion rate = 10% + 11% + 4% = 25%



## A Closer Look

Details emerge when the data are "disaggregated" by placement level.

- Among the 13% of students who place into their gateway math course, almost **three fourths** complete it within 2 years.
- Among 34% who place 1 or 2 levels below gateway math, about **one third** complete it within 2 years.

• Among the remaining 52% who place 3 or more levels below gateway, less than **one tenth** complete it within 2 year.

Roughly half of Lane's new students are asked to complete 3 or more math courses before gateway math; only 8% of this group complete gateway math in 2 years and only about 8% graduate in 4 years, compared to 12% for all students.

<sup>1</sup>Based on the cohort of 1067 award seeking students who started at Lane in Fall 2012, were new to college, and took the math placement test.

Note: Numbers of students are proportionate to heights (not areas) of stick figures.

