Ready—or not?
Most community college students think they are academically ready for college, yet more than two-thirds take developmental classes.

Disconnect between students’ perception and reality

86% of students believe they are academically prepared
67% of students take developmental education

Source: “Expectations Meet Reality: The Underprepared Student and Community Colleges,” Center for Community College Student Engagement (2016).

Community college students have high aspirations. In fact, 84 percent of them indicated on an annual survey that they aim to complete an associate degree and 53 percent plan to obtain a certificate. A new Center for Community College Student Engagement study shows about 76 percent of students thought that they were on track to reach their academic goals and 86 percent believed they were academically prepared. Nearly three in five expected to do so within two years. However, the study shows an alarming disconnect between students’ perception of college readiness and the reality of attaining those credentials. About 67 percent of polled students ended up taking one or more developmental education courses, and other studies show only 39 percent of students end up earning a degree or certificate within six years. For more information, click here.

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