ASSESSMENT PLAN
Master of Mathematics

Department of Mathematics
College of science and Mathematics
University of South Carolina
March, 2000

I. PROGRAM PURPOSES
The Masters of Mathematics is designed primarily for students who seek a broad, thorough
training in mathematics which includes course work specifically designed to meet the needs of
secondary school teachers.

II. INTENDED LEARNING OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES
The Masters of Mathematics degree recipient should be able to...

1. Understand theory: understand the mathematical foundation of algebra and calculus as
taught at the secondary level.

2. Statistical knowledge: understand elementary results in statistics and probability.

3. Computational knowledge: have a basic mastery of a higher level programming language

III. PROCEDURES, MEASURES, AND CRITERIA

1. Theory: candidates are required to pass the courses Math 701I, Math 702I, and Math 703I,
704I and obtain a pass on the written Comprehensive Examinations based on these courses.

2. Statistical knowledge: candidates are required to take a course in statistics or probability, if
they have not previously done so.

3. Computational knowledge: candidates are required to take a higher level programming
language course, if they have not previously done so.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION
The Department of Mathematics will conduct an Exit Survey with each graduating MM student, in
which each student will be asked whether he/she is better prepared for his/her teaching job, as well
as comment on the USC graduate program's strengths and weaknesses. The results are used to help
make improvements in the program. First positions of graduates or progress in a doctoral program
are kept on file. Each year the Graduate Director will prepare a summary report of assessment
data.

V. IMPLEMENTATION
Evaluation results from the Implementation Phase of this Assessment Plan will be featured in the
Department's Annual report, the Strategic Plan (including any updates), and at other times deemed
appropriate by the Department Chair or other University officials.

VI. FEEDBACK CHANNELS
Assessment results and summaries will be circulated to program faculty at a faculty meeting and at
other times as deemed necessary by the Department Chair.
VII. USE OF RESULTS

Use of results for program modification and the subsequent impact of any changes made will be reviewed yearly by the relevant faculty, and included in the Department’s annual Report and Strategic Plan (including any updates).