

PROCEDURE LIT.7.01.05
TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI)

SCOPE: Students

1. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board implemented Texas Success Initiative (TSI) rules.
 - 1.1. The TSI Assessment Exam is a comprehensive computerized adaptive testing system that helps place students into appropriate college credit courses or developmental courses.
 - 1.1.1. Placement and diagnostic exams are offered in:
 - 1.1.1.1. Mathematics,
 - 1.1.1.2. English Language Arts, and
 - 1.1.1.3. Reading.
 - 1.1.2. Scores are available to students upon completion of the exam.
2. Students are required to take the TSI Assessment Exam to determine their college readiness before enrolling in a college credit bearing course.
3. Before testing, students are required to complete the TSI Pre-Assessment Activity.
4. A degree seeking student who has not passed all portions of the TSI Assessment must enroll and regularly attend at least one developmental class each semester until they satisfy TSI requirements.
5. To register for the TSI Assessment Exam, students must pay a testing fee at the Cashier's Office then schedule an appointment to complete the TSI Assessment Exam in the Testing Center.
 - 5.1. Students may schedule a testing appointment for a specific day and time or may take the test immediately depending upon the availability of computers in the Testing Center.
 - 5.2. For information about the hours of operation, contact the Testing Center. All days and times are subject to change.
6. Exemptions: The following criteria are TSI exemptions:
 - 6.1. A graduate with an associate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
 - 6.2. A student who transfers from a private or independent institution of higher education or an accredited out-of-state institution of higher education and who has satisfactorily completed college level course work of at least six equivalent credit hours (three math, three designated writing/reading courses) with a grade of "C" or better.

6.2.1. The following courses are approved college level courses that satisfy TSI exemptions:

6.2.1.1. Writing

6.2.1.1.1. ENGL 1301 - Composition I; or

6.2.1.1.2. ENGL 1302 - Composition II

6.2.1.2. Reading

6.2.1.2.1. HIST 1301 - United States History I,

6.2.1.2.2. HIST 1302 - United States History II;

6.2.1.2.3. ENGL 1301 - Composition I;

6.2.1.2.4. ENGL 2321 - British Literature,

6.2.1.2.5. ENGL 2333 - British Literature,

6.2.1.2.6. ENGL 2323 - British Literature;

6.2.1.2.7. ENGL 2331- World Literature,

6.2.1.2.8. ENGL 2332 - World Literature,

6.2.1.2.9. ENGL 2333 - World Literature;

6.2.1.2.10. ENGL 2326 - American Literature,

6.2.1.2.11. ENGL 2327 - American Literature,

6.2.1.2.12. ENGL 2328 - American Literature;

6.2.1.2.13. PSYC 2301 - General Psychology;

6.2.1.2.14. GOVT 2301 - American Government,

6.2.1.2.15. GOVT 2302 - American Government,

6.2.1.2.16. GOVT 2305 - Federal Government, or

6.2.1.2.17. GOVT 2306 - Texas Government

6.2.1.3. Mathematics 6.2.1.3.1. MATH 1332 - Contemporary Mathematics (Quantitative Reasoning);

6.2.1.3.1. MATH 1333 - Contemporary Mathematics II;

6.2.1.3.2. MATH 1314 - College Algebra;

6.2.1.3.3. MATH 1316 - Plane Trigonometry; or at the discretion of the institution, a grade of "C" or better in a more advanced mathematics course for which any of the above are prerequisites.

6.2.2. Partial exemption: At least three college-credit hours of College Algebra exempts students from the developmental math requirement, at least three college-credit hours of approved designated reading/writing classes exempts students from developmental reading AND developmental writing.

6.3. A student who transfers from any public Texas institution of higher education with completed requirements for Texas Success Initiative (TSI). Transcripts must be evaluated by the transcript evaluator.

6.4. A student who is serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States, the Texas National Guard, or as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States and has been serving for at least three years preceding enrollment. Documentation is required.

- 6.5. A student who, on or after August 1, 1990, was honorably discharged, retired, or released from active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States or the Texas National Guard, or service as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States.
- 6.6. Students not seeking a degree.
- 6.7. ACT administered prior to February 15, 2023: composite score of 23 with a minimum of 19 on both the English and Math tests. ACT administered on or after February 15, 2023: a combined score of 40 on the English and Reading (E+R) and a score of 22 on the Math. There is no composite score required. The use of scores from both ACT administered prior and after February 15, 2023, are allowable, as long as the benchmarks set forth are met.
- 6.7.1. Scores are valid for five years.
- 6.8. SAT after March 5, 2016: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW)-480 and Math 530.
- 6.8.1. Scores are valid for five years.
- 6.9. GED: A 165 in Math reasoning and/or 165 in Reasoning Through The Language Arts.
- 6.9.1. Scores are valid for five years.
- 6.10. HiSET: Minimum score of 15 on the Mathematics subtest. A minimum score of 15 on the Reading subtest and a minimum score of 15 on the Writing subtest, including a minimum score of 4 on the essay.
- 6.10.1. Scores are valid for five years.
- 6.11. Rules related to the Texas Education Code (TEC), Section 28.014, College Preparatory Course (CPC), Rule 4.54 Exemptions, Exceptions, and Waivers: A student who successfully completes a college preparatory course under Texas Education Code 28.014 is exempt for a period of 12 months from the date of high school graduation with respect to the content area of the course. The student must enroll in the student's first college-level course in the exempted content area in the student's first year of enrollment in an institution of higher education (We highly recommend the first semester). This exemption applies only at the institution of higher education that partners with the school district in which the student is enrolled to provide the course. Additionally, an institution of higher education may enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with a partnering institution of higher education to accept the exemption for the college preparatory course.
- 6.12. For a period of five (5) years from the date of testing, a student who is tested and performs at or above the following standards that cannot be raised by institutions:

6.12.1. STAAR end-of-course (EOC) with a minimum score of 4000 on Level 2 on the English III shall be exempt from the TSI Assessment required under this title for both reading and writing,

6.12.2. and a minimum score of 4000 on Level 2 on the Algebra II EOC shall be exempt from the TSI Assessment required under this title for the mathematics section.

Related Policies: LIT.7.01 Admissions

Relevant Forms/Documents:

Relevant TSUS Policies/Forms/Documents:

Relevant Statutes:

Relevant SACSOC Standards:

Document History:

Adopted:

Reviewed: September 2023, August 2025

Revised: