

TSI

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a state-legislated program that provides assistance with reading, writing and math skills of students entering Texas public colleges and universities. The program consists of testing, advisement, placement and developmental education for students who do not pass one or more sections of the test. There are possible exemptions and waivers from the State mandate.

TSI Requirement Exemptions

Students may be exempt from taking a TSI-eligible exam, unless it is needed as a prerequisite for a specific course, if they meet one of the following:

- ACT

Composite score of twenty-three (23) or higher, with a minimum score of nineteen (19) in each section of the English and math tests. Scores are valid for five (5) years from date of testing.*

- SAT

Combined score of 1070 or higher, with a minimum of 500 in each section of the verbal and math tests. Scores are valid for five (5) years from date of testing.*

- TAKS Exit-Level

Minimum scale score of 2200 on the exit-level math section and 2200 on the English Language Arts (ELA) section with a writing sub-section score of five (5) or higher. Scores are valid for three (3) years from date of testing.

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

- Readiness Status

Met college-level readiness standards in English, reading, and mathematics at an accredited Texas public institution of higher education.

- Transfer from Private or Accredited Out-of-State Institutions

Satisfactorily completed a minimum of three (3) college-level semester credit hours in English, reading, and math with a grade of "C" or better.

- Degree

Earned an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree from an accredited Texas public institution of higher education.

- Certificate

Enrolled in THECB approved Certificate Level-One Programs of one (1) year or less with forty-two (42) or fewer semester credit hours that do not require specific skill levels for course enrollment.

- Military

Currently serving on Active Duty in the US Armed Forces, Texas National Guard, or as a member of a reserve component of the US Armed Forces for at least three (3) years preceding enrollment.

After August 1, 1990, was honorably discharged, released, or retired from Active Duty as a member of the US Armed Forces, Texas National Guard, or as a member of a reserve component of the US Armed Forces.

Students who do not provide official documentation to verify one of the exemptions above are required to take one of the TSI assessments.