TEXAS LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Texas Success Initiative

The Texas Success Initiative is a state-legislated program that measures students' skills in Mathematics and English, Language Arts, and Reading (ELAR). All students, except those who are TSI-Exempt, should take an initial TSI assessment test before their first semester in college.

The State of Texas has one approved assessment instrument, the TSI Assessment. This assessment instrument is administered at Texas State University through the Testing, Evaluation, and Measurement Center as well as all two- and four-year public institutions across the state.

Approved Assessment Instruments and Cut-Scores

TSI Assessment 2.0

- College Ready Scores
  - Mathematics - 950-990; **OR** less than 950 with a Diagnostic Level 6.
  - English, Language Arts, Reading – 945-990 with an Essay Score of 5 and above; **OR** less than 945 with an Essay of 5 and above AND a diagnostic of 5 and above.

TSI Assessment 1.0

- College Ready Scores Prior to January 11, 2021
  - Mathematics – 350 and above.
  - Reading – 351 and above.
  - Writing - Essay Score of 5 and above; **OR** Multiple Choice score of 340 with an essay score of 4 and above.
- Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services. There are no time restrictions on the TSIA exams.

TSI Exemptions

Some students are exempt or partially exempt from the assessment. A student will be identified as TSI-Exempt or partially exempt when Texas State has received official proof that he or she satisfies any one of the following:

- Earned an associate or bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education whose accreditation is recognized by SACSCOC (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges);
- ACT prior to February 15, 2023: Earned a composite score of at least 23 and at least 19 on the Mathematics and/or English components of an ACT test which is no more than five years old.
- ACT on or after February 15, 2023: Earned a combined score of 40 on the English and Reading (E+R) tests and earned a score of 22 on the Mathematics test.
- SAT: Earned an evidence-based score of 480 for Reading and Writing and a score of 530 for Mathematics on an SAT test which is no more than five years old. The writing section of the SAT is not considered.
- STAAR: Earned a minimum score of 4000 (Level II) on English III (EOC) and a minimum score of 4000 (Level II) on Algebra II (EOC).
- Enrolled in a certificate program of one year or less (Level-One certificates, 42 or fewer semester credit hours or the equivalent).
- Previously attended any Texas institution of higher education and has been determined to have met readiness standards by that institution.
- 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.
- 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 on or after August 1, 1990.
- Is a non-degree seeking or non-certificate seeking student.

The office of Undergraduate Admissions must receive the student's transcript and ACT, SAT, or STAAR scores in order to receive the corresponding TSI exemption.

Developmental Education

If students do not meet the requirements of one or more parts of the initial assessment test, they will be required to participate in an individualized developmental education program that will prepare them for college-level coursework. The program may require re-testing and/or enrollment in developmental courses. The student and a Texas Success Initiative representative will jointly determine the appropriate path for the student to meet TSI requirements.

Transfer Course Evaluation

Students transferring from other institutions of higher education will have their transcripts initially evaluated by the Undergraduate Admissions Office. In accordance with the Texas Education Code: "If a student successfully completes the 42-semester credit hour core curriculum at a Texas public institution of higher education, that block of courses must be substituted in transfer to any other Texas public institution of higher education for the receiving institution's core curriculum. A student shall receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred and may not be required to take additional core curriculum courses at the receiving institution. A student who transfers from one institution of higher education to another without completing the core curriculum of the sending institution shall receive academic credit from the receiving institution for each of the courses that the student has successfully completed in the core curriculum of the sending institution. Following receipt of credit for these courses, the student may be required to satisfy further course requirements in the core curriculum of the receiving institution." (Title 3, Subtitle B, Chapter 61.822(c-d)) Students seeking evaluation of courses from out-of-state or private institutions for fulfillment of general education core curriculum components may complete a transfer evaluation request (https://transfercenter.txst.edu/txst-professionals-transfer-center-resources/ter.html) to initiate the process. Students should be prepared to provide documentation such as catalog descriptions, course syllabi, and textbook information to facilitate verification of course content. Students seeking evaluation of coursework for application to a major or minor requirement should contact their advising center for information about the process for evaluation by department faculty.

Out-of-State/Private School Transfers

A student who is transferring coursework from a private or out-of-state school may not need to take an assessment test. This rule has many restrictions, and students should check with the Texas Success Initiative Office before assuming this applies to them. The following statements apply to exact transfer courses and not to elective credit non-advanced (ELNA) courses taken at private or out-of-state schools. A student who transfers a grade of "A", "B", or "C" in a course evaluated

to be the equivalent of one of the following Texas State courses is TSI exempt in Mathematics as a result of the course equivalency:

Code	Title	Hours
MATH 1312	College Statistics and Algebra	3
MATH 1315	College Algebra	3
MATH 1316	Survey of Contemporary Mathematics	3
MATH 1317	Plane Trigonometry	3
MATH 1319	Mathematics for Business and Economics I	3
MATH 1329	Mathematics for Business and Economics II	3
MATH 2321	Calculus for Life Sciences I	3
MATH 2328	Elementary Statistics	3
MATH 2417	Pre-Calculus Mathematics	4
MATH 2471	Calculus I	4

A student who transfers a grade of "A", "B", or "C" in a course evaluated to be the equivalent of one of the following Texas State courses is TSI exempt in English, Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) as a result of the course equivalency.

Code	Title	Hours
ANTH 1312	Cultural Anthropology	3
ENG 1310	College Writing I	3
ENG 1320	College Writing II	3
ENG 2310	British Literature before 1785	3
ENG 2320	British Literature since 1785	3
ENG 2330	World Literature before 1600	3
ENG 2340	World Literature since 1600	3
ENG 2359	US Literature before 1865	3
ENG 2360	US Literature since 1865	3
HIST 1310	History of the United States to 1877	3
HIST 1320	History of the United States, 1877 to Date	3
HIST 2327	History of Mexican America to 1865	3
HIST 2328	History of Mexican America from 1865	3
HIST 2381	African American History to 1877	3
HIST 2382	African American History from 1877	3
POSI 2310	Principles of American Government	3
POSI 2320	Functions of American Government	3
PSY 1300	Introduction to Psychology	3
SOCI 1310	Introduction to Sociology	3

If a student has passed some but not all components of the TSI assessment, they should take the remaining parts of the test prior to attempting to register for classes at Texas State.

Incoming students who have taken an assessment test but have not submitted their scores to Texas State should send their scores using the information located at: https://www.txst.edu/tsi.html (Select the button: Submit TSIA Scores.)

History and Government

Pursuant to Texas Education Code §51.302, every student graduating from a state-supported college or university must complete six semester hours of American History (HIST 1310 (https://current.mycatalog.txstate.edu/search/?P=HIST%201310) and HIST 1320 (https://current.mycatalog.txstate.edu/search/?P=HIST%201320) at Texas State University) and six semester hours of American Government (POSI 2310 (https://current.mycatalog.txstate.edu/search/?P=POSI%202310) and POSI 2320 (https://current.mycatalog.txstate.edu/search/?P=POSI%202320) at Texas State University). According to current law, the university may grant up to three semester hours of credit to the core curriculum history requirement for substantially equivalent work completed by a student in the program of an approved senior ROTC unit, and up to three hours to the core curriculum government requirement (POSI 2320 (https://current.mycatalog.txstate.edu/search/?P=POSI%202320) only) for substantially equivalent work completed by a student in the program of an approved senior ROTC unit.

Field of Study (FOS) & Field of Study Curricula (FOSC)

A Field of Study (FOS) is a selection of lower-division courses guaranteed by state law to transfer and apply to a degree program. Unless repealed or replaced, FOS in effect as of March 1, 2021 and will remain in effect until August 31, 2025, upon which date those FOS expire by operation of the law. FOS in the following academic areas are pertinent to degree programs offered at Texas State University: Accounting, Art, Biology, Civil Engineering, Communication Studies, Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Economics, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Technology, English, Finance, History, Journalism, Management, Marketing, Mass Communication, Mathematics, Microbiology, Music, Nursing, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, Studio Art, Theatre, and Wildlife Biology.

Beginning in March 2021, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopted revised transfer rules that establish a new framework for transfer curricula, including new Field of Study Curricula (FOSC). More information can be found regarding FOS and FOSC at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board website (https://www.highered.texas.gov/institutional-resources-programs/public-universities-health-related-institutions/transfer-resources/texas-transfer-framework/).

Degree Plan

Upon enrollment, all degree-seeking students are provided with a degree plan through *Degree Works, a degree audit software*. Based upon the student's major, this online system displays the courses required for graduation, tracks the student's progress and maintains an up-to-date list of their remaining course-work. Students and advisors use this tool to facilitate enrollment in appropriate courses and to monitor progress toward the degree. (Texas Education Code, Chapter 51, Section 51.9685)