



Benchmark 5 Resources for TSI Support

Presented by

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Benchmark 5: Academic Rigor and Readiness

The Early College High School shall administer a Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college placement exam (as defined by TAC §4.53) to all accepted students to assess college readiness, design individual instructional plans, and enable students to begin college courses based on their performance.

Benchmark 5: Academic Rigor and Readiness

The Early College High School shall administer a Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college placement exam (as defined by TAC §4.53) to all accepted students to assess college readiness, design individual instructional plans, and enable students to begin college courses based on their performance.

Products		Sources of Data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOU • Data review plan and calendar • Reports of TSI exam performance • Individual instructional plans • Tutoring/support schedules • Bridge program curricula 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSI college placement exam data • College entrance exam preparation course schedules and data • Exam fee waivers • Calendar of family-focused events and participation data • Program records documenting nature and number of trips to college • Student-level performance data and intervention plans • Tutoring and bridge program schedules and participation data
Initiating	Implementing	Exemplar
<p>The initiating campus shall create a coherent schedule of tasks, activities, and accomplishment of interim benchmarks that culminate in achievement of Exemplar targets within a logical and reasonable timeframe</p> <p>The initiating campus shall have or build experience administering a TSI assessment and/or TSI-readiness supports to an entire grade level.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ECHS shall meet all the Initiating criteria. 2. The ECHS shall provide a TSI assessment to accepted students as early as possible (however, not as a prerequisite for admissions to the ECHS). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The ECHS shall implement a plan for TSI success, including academic preparation classes for accepted students, academic interventions for students who do not pass TSI, and assessments fee waivers for all administrations of the TSI test. b. The ECHS shall report to TEA the dates the TSI is administered. c. The ECHS shall report to TEA the number of students who have currently passed each section of the TSI assessment, including a breakdown of TSI testing data for subpopulations of targeted students 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ECHS shall meet all the Implementing criteria 2. The ECHS is a TSI assessment site, allowing frequent testing and access to raw data that can be used to identify student weaknesses and create tailored interventions and individualized instructional plans to improve student readiness and success. 3. The ECHS provides a bridge program (an intensive academic preparation program that provides opportunities to strengthen academic skills necessary for high school and college readiness) before and after grade 9.

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Benchmark 5- Source of Data

- TSI college placement exam data
- College entrance exam preparation course schedules and data
- Exam fee waivers- No cost to students
- Calendar of family-focused events and participation data
- Program records documenting nature and number of trips to college
- Student-level performance data and intervention plans
- Tutoring and bridge program schedules and participation data

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Benchmark 5- Products

- MOU
- Data review plan and calendar
- Reports of TSI exam performance
- Individual instructional plans
- Tutoring/support schedules Bridge program curricula

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TSI Plan of Action

- What is your TSI testing schedule and what determines it?
- When do you test the students for the first time?
- How many times do you test incoming freshmen, during the school year?
- How do you manage or keep track of your TSI data?
- What is your academic plan for TSI retakes?
- How do you coordinate a productive Bridge Program, with your IHE?

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TSI Plan of Action

- What is the role of your high school teachers, in regards to TSI prep?
- How can you incorporate TSI support into your high school master schedule?
- What is the role of your IHE, in regards to TSI prep?
- How is the TSI data reported to the IHE?
- How do you become a TSI testing site?
- What are some TSI preparation resources schools utilize?

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TSI Success A Joint Effort

Freer Early College High School
and
Texas A&M International University

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Freer ECHS-TSI Testing Schedule

- What is your TSI testing schedule and what determines it?
- When do you test the students for the first time?
- How many times do you test incoming freshmen, during the school year?

Algebra I 8th graders TSI test in January

All 8th graders TSI test in May

8 day required Summer Bridge in July

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Freer ECHS- Managing TSI Data

- How do you manage or keep track of your TSI data?
- How is the TSI data reported to the IHE?
- What is your academic plan for TSI retakes?

TAMIU Writing Center Interim Director
& Freer ECHS administrator analyze TSI diagnostic
reports to develop an intervention plan for the
students. Students are grouped by areas of need

Academic plan for TSI retakes- TSI Reading & TSI Math
support classes are scheduled into the students' schedule

Students test both at TAMIU and Freer ECHS
Before the student can retest, they must attend 3 intervention sessions at the
high school which include on-line modules or classroom interventions

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Freer ECHS and TAMIU Our Bridge Program

- How do you coordinate a productive Bridge with your IHE?
- What is the goal of your Bridge Program?

Summer Bridge

Winter Bridge

Fall Bridge

Organization and communication are key to developing a productive Bridge
TAMIU and Freer ECHS coordinate a Leadership Council meeting at the university
All individuals who have a part in Bridge activities attend the Leadership Council meeting

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High School Schedule for TSI Prep

- What is the role of your high school teachers, with regards to TSI prep?
- How can you incorporate TSI into your high school curriculum?
- What is the role of your IHE, with regards to TSI prep?

Start in Jr. High –A & B Day double block ELA and Math
ELA & Math curriculum
STAAR and TSI Interventions

TSI Math and TSI ELA are built into the high school master schedule for needing
to meet standards

TAMIU- TSI support throughout the school day using on-line modules
Supplemental Instruction (SI) provided by TAMIU for all cohorts
All TSI Interventions and Orientation, at Summer, Fall and Winter Bridge, is provided by TAMIU

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RESOURCES

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How to become a testing site

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us>

Texas public school district or charter school interested in administering the TSI Assessment (TSIA) can become a testing site.

Contact Chantel Reynolds, the College Board liaison for THECB. Ms. Reynolds will provide guidance to your testing/assessment director on the steps to becoming a testing site.

Note: there is no charge for becoming a testing site, nor are there any limitations based on the number of students tested.

Chantel Reynolds, Senior Director
ACCUPLACER/CLEP Outreach, Higher Education Services

The College Board
creynolds@collegeboard.org

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TSI Assessment Link

Please review the following links prepared from the College Board for additional information on Texas Success Initiative (TSI).

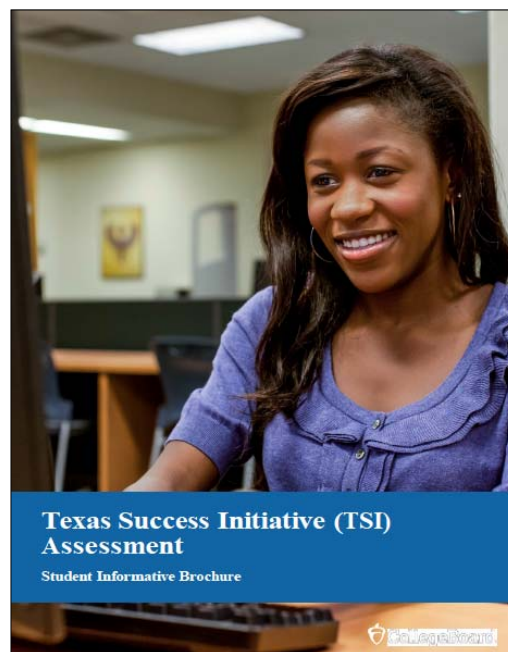
- **Brochure for students:** <https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/accuplacer-tsi-assessment-student-brochure-v2.pdf>
- **Interpreting TSI score:** <https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/accuplacer-tsi-assessment-interpreting-score-v2.pdf>
- **TSI test content:** <https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer>
- **Sample students questions:** <http://media.collegeboard.com/digitalServices/pdf/accuplacer/accuplacer-sample-questions-for-students.pdf>

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College Board TSI -Brochure for Students

<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/>

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Continued College Board TSI -Brochure for Students

What Is the TSI Assessment?

The TSI Assessment (TSA) is part of the Texas Success Initiative program designed to help your college or university determine if you are ready for college-level course work in the general areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. This program also will help determine what type of course or intervention will best meet your needs to help you become better prepared for college-level course work if you are not ready.

If you are an incoming college student in Texas, you are required to take the TSI Assessment — unless you are already exempt (read below) — to determine your readiness for college-level work. Based on how you perform, you may either be enrolled in a college-level course that matches your skill level and/or placed in the appropriate developmental course or intervention to improve your skills and prepare you for success in college-level courses.

Do I Have to Take the TSI Assessment?

Not all incoming students need to take the TSI Assessment. There are many ways you can be exempt. Qualifying for a TSI Assessment exemption means that you can enroll in any entry-level college course without restrictions. In other words, there are no prerequisites for enrollment in the entry-level college courses. In certain cases exemptions are subject-specific, which means you may qualify for an exemption in one area such as reading but not in another area like mathematics or writing. You may be exempt if you:

- ◆ Have met the minimum college readiness standard on the SAT, ACT, or a state-level high school test.
- ◆ Have successfully completed college-level English and math courses.
- ◆ Have enrolled in a Level One certificate program (fewer than 43 semester credit hours).
- ◆ Are not seeking a degree; or
- ◆ Have been, or currently are, in the military.

If you think you may be exempt, please contact an adviser at your college or university. For more information, visit our website at www.texas.edu/tsi (see #2 and click on TSI Exemptions).

How Does the TSI Assessment Work?

If you are not exempt from taking the TSI Assessment, you will be asked by your college or university to take three tests: one in mathematics, one in reading, and one in writing. Where necessary, you may be given an additional diagnostic test in a particular subject. This diagnostic test is designed to provide more detailed information regarding your academic strengths and weaknesses.

These assessments include multiple-choice questions that are aligned to the Texas College and Career Readiness Standards. For the writing assessment, it's likely that you will be asked to write an essay.

Here are more details about how the TSA works:

- ◆ The assessments are computer adaptive, which means that questions increase or decrease in difficulty level depending on how you respond.
- ◆ The assessments are untimed, which means there is no time limit on how long you can take to complete the assessment. However, it is important to allow yourself enough time to complete each test because the results are a key factor in determining the course or courses in which you can enroll.
- ◆ In most cases, the assessment provides immediate results upon completion. When you complete the assessment, you immediately receive information on your score and your skill or proficiency level.
- ◆ You may start and stop anytime during your test session by using the "Save and Finish Later" option. Except during the essay, which must be started and completed in the same session, if you select this option, you must return and complete the remaining assessment within fourteen (14) calendar days.

Students with Disabilities

- ◆ Students with disabilities who would like to request accommodations for testing must contact the disabilities services office at the college or university to identify themselves and provide necessary documentation as requested by the institution. Submitted documentation will be reviewed to determine the appropriate accommodation(s), according to institutional policies and federal/state laws. Accommodated test versions include Braille and large-print options.

Mandatory Pre-Assessment Activity

Before you take the TSI Assessment, you must participate in a Pre-Assessment Activity. The college or university at which you take your test is required to provide the Pre-Assessment Activity as well as document your participation. It is a requirement that you complete the activity before you take the test. The activity includes the following:

- ◆ An explanation of the importance of the TSI Assessment and how the assessment works.
- ◆ Practice test questions and feedback.
- ◆ An explanation of all your developmental education options, if you don't meet the minimum passing standard; and
- ◆ Information on campus and community resources that will help you succeed as a college student.

Contact the college or university at which you plan to take the test for details on dates and times to complete this mandatory Pre-Assessment Activity.

What Does the Assessment Cover?

The TSI Assessment in Mathematics is a multiple-choice assessment that covers the four content areas listed below. There are approximately 20 items on the TSI placement test and 10 to 12 items in each section of the CC Diagnostic Test.

- ◆ **Elementary Algebra and Functions** measures your knowledge of linear equations, inequalities, and systems; algebraic expressions and equations; and word problems and applications.

◆ **Intermediate Algebra and Functions** measures your knowledge of quadratic and other polynomial expressions, equations, and functions; expressions, equations, and functions involving powers, roots, and radicals; and rational and exponential expressions, equations, and functions.

◆ **Geometry and Measurement** measures your knowledge of plane geometry; transformations and symmetry; and linear, area, and three-dimensional measurements.

◆ **Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability** measures your knowledge of interpreting categorical and quantitative data; statistical measures; and probabilistic reasoning.

The TSI Assessment in Reading is a multiple-choice assessment that covers the four content areas listed below. There are approximately 20 items on the TSI placement test and 10 to 12 items in each section of the CC Diagnostic Test.

- ◆ **Literary Analysis** measures your skill in identifying and analyzing ideas in and elements of literary texts.
- ◆ **Main Idea and Supporting Details** measures your skill in identifying the main idea of a passage and in comprehending explicit textual information in a passage.
- ◆ **Inference** is a test or texts measure your skill in synthesizing ideas by making inferences in a passage and in making an appropriate inference about single passages.
- ◆ **Author's Use of Language** measures your skill in identifying an author's purpose, tone, organization or rhetorical strategies, and use of evidence in determining the meaning of words in context.



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Continued College Board TSI - Brochure for Students

The TSI Assessment in Writing is an assessment that contains a multiple-choice section and an essay section.

Multiple-Choice Section

The multiple-choice section of the TSI Assessment in Writing measures your skills in the four content areas listed below. There are approximately 20 items on the TSI placement test and 10 to 12 items in each section of the CC Diagnostic Test.

- ◆ **Essay Revision** measures your ability to provide coherence, organization, and good word choice and your ability to achieve rhetorical effectiveness and use evidence.
- ◆ **Agreement** measures your ability to perform subject-verb agreement and pronoun agreement as well as your ability to determine verb tenses.
- ◆ **Sentence Structure** measures your knowledge of topics like comma splices and run-on sentences, improper punctuation, fragments and parallelism, and subordination and coordination.
- ◆ **Sentence Logic** measures your ability to correctly place modifying phrases and clauses and your ability to use logical transitions.

Essay Section

You may be asked to write a five-paragraph persuasive essay (approximately 300–500 words) on a controversial issue or one of current interest. You will be expected to clearly state a main idea and provide specific examples and details to back up your main idea, as well as follow conventions of standard English. You will not be allowed to use a dictionary or other outside resources, but you may use plain scratch paper (provided at the testing center) to plan your essay and write your rough draft(s).

How to Prepare

Take advantage of free sample questions to improve in areas where your academic performance is not the strongest. These sample questions help you familiarize yourself with the types of questions asked on the TSI Assessment. To access the full sample questions document, visit www.collegeboard.org/texas-sample-questions.



Can I Retake the Test?

If you are not satisfied with your performance, you may retake the TSI Assessment at any time. However, before you attempt to retake, it is strongly recommended that you set aside time for additional study. Check with the testing center at the college or university at which you plan to retake for information concerning retaking and review workshops.

For additional information on the TSI Assessment, please contact an adviser/counselor at your college or university.



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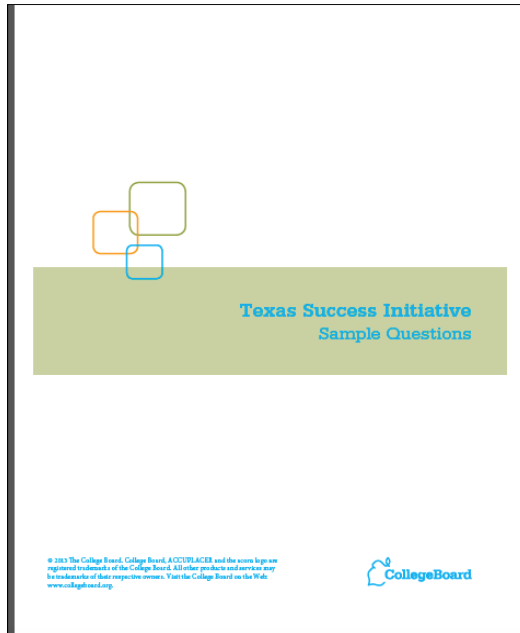
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TSI Sample Questions

<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/accuplacer-texas-success-initiative-assessment-sample-questions.pdf>

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College Board TSI -Sample Questions

Reading

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Reading test contains questions that measure proficiency in four content areas. The four content areas are as follows:

Literary Analysis — Topics covered in this category include:

- Identifying and analyzing ideas and demands of literary texts
- Identifying the main idea of a passage
- Comparing and contrasting textual information in a passage

Main Idea and Supporting Details — Topics covered in this category include:

- Identifying the main idea of a passage
- Comparing and contrasting textual information in a passage

Inference in a Text or Texts — Topics covered in this category include:

- Identifying ideas by making a connection or comparison between two passages
- Making an appropriate inference about single passages

Author's Use of Language — Topics covered in this category include:

- Identifying an author's purpose, tone, and organization or rhetorical strategies and use of evidence
- Determining the meaning of words in context

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Writing

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Writing test contains questions that measure proficiency in four content areas. The four content areas are as follows:

Essay Revision — Topics covered in this category include:

- Collaborative, organizational and word choice
- Rhetoric of effectiveness and use of evidence

Agreement — Topics covered in this category include:

- Subject-verb agreement
- Pronoun agreement
- Verb tense

Subject-Verb Agreement — Topics covered in this category include:

- Correct subject and verb agreement
- Subject-verb agreement
- Subject-verb agreement

Agreement — Topics covered in this category include:

- Correct placement of modifying phrase and clause
- The use of logical transitions

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Mathematics

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Mathematics test contains questions that measure proficiency in four content areas. The four content areas are as follows:

Elementary Algebra and Functions — Topics covered in this category include:

- Linear equations, inequalities and systems
- Algebraic expressions and equations
- Word problems and applications

Intermediate Algebra and Functions — Topics covered in this category include:

- Quadratic and other polynomial equations, inequalities and functions
- Exponential, logarithmic and functions involving growth, birth and death
- Rational and exponential equations, inequalities and functions

Geometry and Measurement — Topics covered in this category include:

- Plane geometry
- Three-dimensional geometry
- Linear, area and three-dimensional measurements

Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability — Topics covered in this category include:

- Interpreting categorical and quantitative data
- Statistical measures
- Probability measures

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College Board Interpreting TSI Data



Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment

Interpreting Your Score



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College Board TSI –Blueprint

accuplacer.collegeboard.org

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Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Blueprint

This blueprint document indicates the breadth of Texas College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards that are addressed within each TSI strand. The blueprint also indicates the number of items per standard that align to the Texas CCRS and to the TEKS.

TSI Strand	Number of Standards	Number of Questions in Test Pool*
Reading		
I. Literary Analysis	Texas CCRS R.A.1, R.A.2, R.A.3, R.A.4, R.A.5, R.A.6, R.A.7, R.A.8, R.A.9 TEKS (English III) 10.2, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7	7 237 items 29% of item pool 4
II. Main Idea and Supporting Details	Texas CCRS R.A.3, R.A.7, R.S.1 TEKS (English III) 10.8	3 176 items 22% of item pool 1
III. Inferences in a Text or Texts	Texas CCRS R.A.11, R.A.12, R.A.13, R.A.14, R.A.15, R.A.16, R.A.17, R.A.18, R.A.19, R.A.20 TEKS (English III) 10.9	6 195 items 24% of item pool 2
IV. Author's Use of Language	Texas CCRS R.A.3, R.A.7, R.A.9, R.A.10, R.A.11, R.A.12, R.A.13, R.A.14, R.A.15, R.A.16, R.A.17, R.A.18, R.A.19, R.A.20 TEKS (English III) 10.1, 10.8, 10.9, 10.10	5 208 items 25% of item pool 4
Reading Total	Texas CCRS TEKS (English III)	9 816 items
Writing		
I. Essay Revision	Texas CCRS L.A.8, L.A.9 TEKS (English III) 10.13, 10.14	2 250 items 33% of item pool 2
II. Sentence Structure	Texas CCRS L.A.8, L.A.9 TEKS (English III) 10.13, 10.13, 10.17, 10.18	2 178 items 24% of item pool 4
III. Sentence Logic	Texas CCRS L.A.8, L.A.9 TEKS (English III) 10.13, 10.13, 10.17, 10.18	2 198 items 26% of item pool 4
IV. Agreement	Texas CCRS L.A.8, L.A.9 TEKS (English III) 10.13, 10.13, 10.17, 10.18	2 151 items 17% of item pool 3
Writeplacer (Essay)	Texas CCRS L.A.1, L.A.2, L.A.3 TEKS (English III) 10.13, 10.13, 10.13, 10.17, 10.18	3 1 constructed response essay 6
Writing Total	Texas CCRS TEKS (English III)	5 757 items + essay 11

Recommended phase-in college ready cuts

- ✓ Phase 1 – Freshmen entering higher education Fall 2013
 - ✓ Mathematics - 350
 - ✓ Reading - 351
 - ✓ Writing – Essay Score of 5; Essay Score of 4 and Multiple Choice of 363
- ✓ Phase 2 – Freshmen entering higher education Fall 2017
 - ✓ Mathematics - 356
 - ✓ Reading - 355
 - ✓ Writing - Essay Score of 5; Essay Score of 4 and Multiple Choice of 363
- ✓ Final – Freshmen entering higher education Fall 2019
 - ✓ Mathematics - 369
 - ✓ Reading - 359
 - ✓ Writing - Essay Score of 5; Essay Score of 4 and Multiple Choice of 363

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Questions

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