The Texas Success Initiative is a state-legislated program designed to improve student success in college. There are two components of the program.

- An assessment to diagnose students’ basic skills in reading, mathematics, and writing
- Developmental instruction to strengthen academic skills that need improvement

All incoming college students in Texas are required to take the TSI Assessment unless you qualify for a TSI exemption.

The following student shall be TSI exempt and not required to provide any additional demonstration of college readiness and shall be allowed to enroll in any entry-level freshman course as defined by 19 Tex. Admin Code, § 4.53 (12).

(A) ACT: composite score of 23 with a minimum of 19 on the English test shall be exempt for both the reading and writing sections of the TSI Assessment, and/or 19 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI Assessment.

(B) SAT: a combined critical reading (formerly “verbal”) and mathematics score of 1070 with a minimum of 500 on the critical reading test shall be exempt for the both reading and writing sections of the TSI Assessment, and/or 500 on the mathematics test shall exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI Assessment;

(C) TAKS: A minimum scale score of 2200 on the math section and/or minimum scale score of 2200 on the English Language Arts section with a writing subsection score of at least a 3, shall be exempt from the TSI Assessment.

(D) STAAR End-of-Course (EOC): A minimum score od Level 2 (2000) on the English III shall be exempt from the TSI Assessment for both reading and writing, and a minimum score of a Level 2 (4000) on the Algebra II EOC shall be exempt from the TSI Assessment mathematics section.

(E) A student who is enrolled in a certificate program of one year or less (Level I certificates, 42 or fewer semester credit hours or the equivalent) at a public junior college, a public technical institute, or a public state college. This applies only for 11th and 12th grade dual credit students ONLY.

(F) A student who successfully completed a college preparatory course under the Texas Education Code §28.014 is exempt for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of high school graduation with respect to the content area of the course. 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.

(G) ESOL Waiver: An institution may grant a temporary waiver from the assessment required for students with demonstrated limited English proficiency in order to provide appropriate ESOL/ESL coursework and interventions. The waiver must be removed prior to the student attempting 15 credit hours of developmental ESOL coursework or attempting entry-level freshman coursework whichever comes first, at which time the student would be administered the TSI Assessment.

If you are not TSI exempt or waived, then you will need to take the TSI Assessment. Before you take the assessment, you will need to complete the Pre-Assessment Activity. The TSI Assessment is designed to provide more detailed information regarding your academic strengths and weaknesses. We recommend that you complete the Pre-Assessment Activity at least 48 hours prior to taking the test, so you will be prepared. Make a reservation (this is mandatory) at the CBC location nearest you by paying the test fee of $29 and signing the TSI Contract at least one week prior to your test date. Note: If you are not currently a CBC student, you must complete the ApplyTexas application prior to making your test reservation