

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this academic policy statement is to provide guidelines that regulate remedial requirements at Sam Houston State University.

2. GENERAL

2.01 Students attending Texas public institutions of higher education must be in compliance with the Texas Success Initiative (TSI), which replaced the Texas Academic Skills Program in fall of 2003.

2.02 The law requires all entering college students to be assessed for college readiness in mathematics, reading, and writing unless the student qualifies for an exemption.

2.03 Each student who fails to meet the minimum passing standard of the assessment instrument must be advised regarding developmental education necessary to ensure his/her readiness to perform freshman-level academic course work and be placed in a developmental program designed to help the student reach that goal.

3. PROCEDURE

3.01 Students are required to enroll in developmental course work until they have demonstrated competence in reading, writing, and mathematics.

3.02 Students must take a TSI test if they are:

- a. Entering or enrolled in a Texas public institution of higher learning and are not exempt.
- b. Exempt (other than by TAKS scores) in only one or two subject areas but must test in the other area(s).
- c. In a teacher education program.

3.03 The following tests have been approved for TSI purposes:

- a. The ACCUPLACER.
- b. The ASSET.

- c. The COMPASS.
- d. The THEA or THEA Quick Test.

Students must provide SHSU with official score reports of tests taken at another institution or a letter on the institution letterhead listing the scores and confirming they are official. See TSI guidelines for passing scores.

- 3.04 Individual departments may require higher qualifying scores than TSI as prerequisites for enrollment in freshman-level classes.
- 3.05 Students who fail to demonstrate mastery in the area of reading are required to enroll in reading remedial classes until they demonstrate competence in this area. Students failing to demonstrate competence in reading will be restricted to non-reading intensive classes.
- 3.06 Unless students qualify for an exemption, they must take a TSI test and have valid scores on file before they enroll in college level classes. It is the student's responsibility to inform the institution of his/her exemption.
- 3.07 TSI exemptions are listed in the TSI guidelines.
- 3.08 Students must enroll in at least one developmental course each fall or spring semester until they satisfy all TSI requirements. During summer sessions, students may register for any class for which they have demonstrated the basic competence.
- 3.09 Transient students from outside Texas or from a private Texas college or university may be exempted from TSI testing based upon appropriate course work.
- 3.10 Students with documented learning disabilities may appeal for an exemption from TSI requirements.
- 3.11 Students are expected to remain enrolled in their developmental class for the entire semester even if they successfully pass an approved TSI examination during the course of the semester. To appeal for permission to drop a class, the student must present official verification of a passing TSI score to the Chair of the department/school offering the class.

3.12 Specific TSI requirements and placement procedures can be found online in the SHSU TSI guidelines.

APPROVED: _____ /signed/
James F. Gaertner, President

DATED: _____ 10/28/05

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

This academic policy statement (APS) has been approved by the reviewer(s) listed below and represents SHSU's Division of Academic Affairs' policy from the date of this document until superseded.

Original: February 26, 1993
Reviewer(s): Council of Academic Deans
Academic Policy Council

Review Cycle: February, ONY*
Review Date: February 1, 2007

Approved: _____ /signed/
David E. Payne
Provost and Vice President
for Academic Affairs

Date: _____ 10/26/05

***ONY = Odd Numbered Year**