Who needs to take the TSIA2?

Not all students entering higher education need to take the TSIA2. There are many ways a student can be **exempt**, meaning they do not need to take the TSIA2 and can enroll in any freshman-level college course without required support.

TSI exemptions are subject-specific, which means a student may qualify for an exemption in one area (such as ELAR) but not in another area (such as Mathematics). If you meet any of the criteria below, you may be exempt from one or both areas of the TSIA2. Contact your college adviser to confirm. Undergraduate students who enter without an exemption are required to take the Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2).

* ACT®: combined score of 23 with a minimum of 19 on English and Mathematics within the past 5 years ~OR~
* SAT® (Administered prior to March 2016): combined score of 1070 with a minimum of 500 on Critical Reading and Mathematics within the past 5 years ~OR~
* SAT® (Administered on or after March 5, 2016): minimum of 530 on Mathematics for exemption in TSI Math; minimum of 480 on Evidenced-Based Reading & Writing (EBRW) for exemption in TSI Reading and Writing ~OR~
* Eleventh grade exit-level TAKS minimum scale score of 2200 on Math, 2200 on English Language Arts, and a Writing subsection score of at least 3 within the past 5 years ~OR~
* STAAR® minimum score of 4000 on English III-Level 2 end of course (EOC) and a minimum score of 4000 on Algebra II-Level 2 EOC ~OR~
* You have satisfactorily completed college-level coursework as determined by the receiving institution. ~OR~
* You have earned an associate or baccalaureate degree from a college. ~OR~
* You are enrolled in a certificate program of one year or less at a public college or public technical institute. ~OR~
* You are 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 have been serving for at least three years preceding enrollment. ~OR~
* On or after August 1, 1990, you were 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. ~OR~
* You completed a College Preparatory Course (CPC) in high school and are enrolling within 24 months from the date of high school graduation (see your adviser for additional requirements regarding this exemption). ~OR~
* You have received a temporary ESOL Waiver granted by the college after demonstrating limited English proficiency.

Why does the TSIA2 matter?

Accurate placement is the first step towards successful college completion. The results of TSIA2, in conjunction with your academic background, goals, and interests, are used by academic advisers and counselors to place you in the appropriate courses that match your achievement level.

How is the test designed, what’s covered and how long will it take?

The TSIA2 is a computer adaptive test, which means questions may increase or decrease in difficulty depending on the student’s responses. The TSIA2 is not timed, and you may pause the test anytime during the session except during the essay portion. If you stop and save your work to finish later, the test must be completed within 13 calendar days. On average, it takes approximately 45-60 minutes per section depending on how prepared you are. In most cases, you will be provided with a score immediately upon completion, including for the essay portion.

The TSIA2 has two subject areas, English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) and Mathematics. You may be required to take one or both sections. When you take the TSIA2, you will start with the College Readiness Classification (CRC) Test. Depending on your CRC score, you may be given a diagnostic test with additional questions. If you are given the diagnostic test, be sure to stay motivated and do your best because you can still demonstrate college readiness.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=is8aCSWFaGo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TsLi77aKZ2Y>

GO TO [TSIA2.ACCUPLACER.ORG](https://tsia2.accuplacer.org/) AND CLICK ON **INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS** TO GET STARTED