

TCHS

COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST INFORMATION

Different colleges require different admission tests. To find out which tests are required, you should check the catalogs of any colleges to which you plan to apply. Most colleges require the scores of the SAT or ACT. Both of these should be taken in the spring of your junior year to determine which test best suits your testing style. Register for the tests online. It is your responsibility to have your scores sent directly to the colleges of your choice from the testing agency.

SAT REASONING TEST

Many two and four-year colleges require SAT scores as part of their admissions requirement. The SAT Reasoning Test is a measure of the critical thinking skills you'll need for academic success in college. The SAT assesses how well you analyze and solve problems—skills you learned in school that you'll need in college. The SAT is typically taken by high school juniors and seniors. Each section of the SAT is scored on a scale of 200—800, with two writing sub-scores for multiple-choice and the essay.

The admission score varies among the colleges. If you plan to attend college, you are encouraged to take the test in the spring of the junior year. If you do not earn the score needed for the colleges you are considering, you may take the SAT again during your senior year. If you are applying to a military academy, you must take the SAT in your junior year. The SAT is given seven times a year and the ACT is given six times a year at a number of test centers in the area. The SAT Reasoning Test includes a Writing section (see <http://sat.collegeboard.org/home>).

ACT

Many two and four year colleges require ACT scores as part of their admissions requirement. The ACT assessment covers four subject areas: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning. The scores are reported for each subject area plus a composite score. The composite score ranges from 1-36 with 18 being average. Sub scoring ranges from 1-18. The admission score varies among the colleges. The ACT is offered six times a year. It is recommended that students take the test near the end of the junior year preferably in June right after having studied for your final exams (see <http://www.actstudent.org/>).

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE ASSESSMENT (TSIA)

Currently, TSIA is required for admission to any Texas public college or university. The TSI Assessment is a program designed to help an institution determine if students 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 a student's needs to help them become better prepared for college-level course work if they are not ready.

Students that are an incoming college student in Texas are required to take the TSI Assessment — unless already exempt (see criteria below) — to determine student readiness for college-level work. Based on assessment/performance results, students may either be enrolled in a college-level course that matches their skill level or be placed in the appropriate developmental course or intervention to improve their skills and prepare them for success in college-level courses.

Not all incoming students need to take the TSI Assessment. There are many ways a student can be exempt. Qualifying for a TSI Assessment exemption means that students can enroll in any entry-level college course without restrictions. In other words, there are no prerequisites for enrollment in college-level courses.

Students may be exempt if they:

- Have met the minimum college readiness standard on SAT[®], ACT, or a statewide high school test (EOC);
- 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.

For more information regarding the TSI, see <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/DE/TSI>