
Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0

INTERPRETING YOUR SCORES



The Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2) assesses your readiness for college-level coursework in English language arts and reading and mathematics. The results of the assessment, in conjunction with your academic background, goals, and interests, are used by academic advisers to place you in the appropriate courses that match your achievement level. For high school students seeking eligibility for dual credit courses, counselors will use TSIA2 scores according to [Texas Education Code, Section 4.85](#). **NOTE: Any references in this brochure to developmental courses, interventions, and corequisite models aren't applicable to high school students seeking to enroll in college-level coursework via dual credit.**

TSIA2 Score Report

In most cases, TSIA2 provides a score report immediately after testing. Use the score report to learn about your academic strengths and areas for improvement. Your adviser or counselor will use the report to make the best recommendations for courses or interventions that meet your needs.

Generally, score reports indicate scores on a combination of the following tests:

- TSIA2 English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) College Readiness Classification (CRC) Test
- TSIA2 Essay Test
- TSIA2 Mathematics College Readiness Classification (CRC) Test
- TSIA2 English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) Diagnostic Test
- TSIA2 Mathematics Diagnostic Test

Scores on the College Readiness Classification (CRC) and Essay Tests primarily determine whether you're ready to take college-level courses. If you're college ready, you may enroll in any related entry-level college course without having to take developmental courses or receive interventions.

You're considered college ready if you receive at least the following scores on the CRC and Essay Tests.

College Readiness Benchmarks

ELAR: A score in the range of 945–990 on the ELAR CRC Test and a score of at least 5 on the Essay Test or an ELAR CRC Test score below 945 and an ELAR Diagnostic Test score of 5 or 6 and an Essay Test score of 5 or higher.

Mathematics: A score in the range of 950–990 on the Mathematics CRC Test or a Mathematics CRC Test score below 950 and a Mathematics Diagnostic Test score of 6.

WHAT IF I DON'T MEET THE COLLEGE READINESS BENCHMARK?

If you've scored below one or more college readiness benchmarks, you may be automatically routed to the TSIA2 Diagnostic Test for ELAR and/or Mathematics. Your score report will include a diagnostic profile based on your performance. The diagnostic profile consists of descriptors of your proficiency in each content category and your diagnostic level based on your overall performance on the Diagnostic Test.

There are three proficiency descriptors for each content category: Basic, Proficient, and Advanced.

- **Basic** indicates that your performance needs to improve significantly in the content area.
- **Proficient** indicates you have demonstrated skill in the content area, but there's room for improvement.
- **Advanced** indicates that you have well-developed skills in the content area.

Accompanying the descriptors are statements that provide information about strengths and weaknesses in the content category.

Information in the diagnostic profile is used to help place you into appropriate courses and determine any necessary interventions to improve your knowledge and skills and prepare you for academic success in college. Your institution may use additional factors to determine your placement, such as your high school grade point average/class ranking, other test scores, and courses from your high school or college transcripts. The institution will also consider your selected major or program.

TSIA2 LEARNING RESOURCES

If you've scored below one or more college readiness benchmarks, your score report will include a Learning Locator Code (LLC), which gives you free access to TSIA2 Learning Resources. TSIA2 Learning Resources is an online library with practice and instructional materials that specifically address the content areas of TSIA2 tests. Use your LLC for immediate access to a custom set of materials in the library specific to your performance in each content area. Materials may include printable or interactive worksheets and tutorials and instructional

videos. Use these resources with the goal of improving your overall performance. Access to the full library of TSIA2 Learning Resources is also available without a LLC at tsia2pearsonperspective.com. Select resources to address skill gaps you may have.

CAN I RETAKE THE TEST?

If you're not satisfied with your scores, you may retake TSIA2 at any time. However, before you attempt to retest, we strongly encourage you to set aside time for additional study (see TSIA2 Learning Resources) as your scores are unlikely to substantially improve otherwise. Speak with your adviser, counselor, or faculty member about additional resources. You can obtain information about retesting from the testing center at your college or university.

Understanding Your ELAR Scores

The ELAR component of TSIA2 consists of up to three tests: the multiple-choice College Readiness Classification (CRC) Test, the multiple-choice Diagnostic Test, and the Essay Test. Your performance determines the combination of tests given.

MULTIPLE-CHOICE TESTS

There are 30 questions on the ELAR CRC Test and 48 questions on the ELAR Diagnostic Test. The questions on both tests address two content categories.

Reading-focused questions measure your skills in comprehension and analysis of literary texts, as well as informational and argumentative texts, including paired passages. On the ELAR Diagnostic Test, this content category is called **Text Analysis and Synthesis**. It contains questions about other kinds of texts, such as workplace documents.

Writing-focused questions measure your skills in revision and editing of sentences, paragraphs, and early drafts of essays. On the ELAR Diagnostic Test, this content category is called **Content Revision and Editing for Conventions**. Like the Text Analysis and Synthesis content category, it contains questions about other kinds of texts, such as workplace documents.

ESSAY TEST

The Essay Test requires you to provide a 300- to 600-word essay in response to one randomly selected prompt. Your essay is scored based on six qualities that are highly valued in college courses:

- **Purpose and Focus:** The extent to which you present information in a unified and coherent manner, clearly addressing the issue.
- **Organization and Structure:** The extent to which you order and connect ideas.
- **Development and Support:** The extent to which you develop and support ideas.
- **Sentence Variety and Style:** The extent to which you craft sentences and paragraphs demonstrating control of vocabulary, voice, and structure.
- **Mechanical Conventions:** The extent to which you express ideas using Standard English conventions.
- **Critical Thinking:** The extent to which you communicate a point of view and demonstrate reasoned relationships among ideas.

HOW IS MY ESSAY TEST SCORED?

Essays are electronically scored by an automated system that's specifically designed to score writing samples. This system evaluates the meaning of text, not just grammatical correctness, or spelling. Your essay is compared for similarities to a set of at least 500 other student essays that have been graded by two expert human readers. It's then placed in the same scoring category as the essays it most resembles.

Once you enter your essay into an on-screen textbox and submit it for scoring, the system automatically evaluates the essay and returns a score from 1 to 8, as well as a holistic score description that summarizes the quality of your essay. The score and description also appear on your score report.

Score	Holistic Score Description
8	The essay demonstrates clear and consistent mastery of on-demand essay writing.
7	The essay demonstrates consistent mastery of on-demand essay writing.
6	The essay demonstrates reasonably consistent mastery of on-demand essay writing.
5	The essay demonstrates adequate mastery of on-demand essay writing.
4	The essay demonstrates developing mastery of on-demand essay writing.
3	The essay demonstrates little mastery of on-demand essay writing.
2	The essay demonstrates very little mastery of on-demand essay writing.
1	The essay demonstrates no mastery of on-demand essay writing.

If your essay is too short to be evaluated, written on a topic other than the one presented, or written in a language other than English, you'll be given a zero.

WHAT ELAR SCORES GET ME TO A COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSE?

You're considered college ready in two ways:

1. If you score in the range of 945–990 on the multiple-choice CRC Test and a 5 or higher on the Essay Test, **or**
2. If you score below 945 on the multiple-choice CRC Test, receive a diagnostic level of 5 or higher on the Diagnostic Test, and score of 5 or higher on the Essay Test.

If your scores don't meet these criteria, you may be placed in a developmental course or provided an appropriate intervention. You may also be in a corequisite model course, where you enroll in a college-level course while taking a developmental education course/intervention to help ensure your success in the college-level course.

Contact the adviser at your college or university for more information.

Understanding Your Mathematics Scores

The Mathematics component of the TSIA2 consists of two tests: The College Readiness Classification (CRC) Test and the Diagnostic Test. Both are multiple choice. The CRC Test

is made up of 20 questions that cover the following 4 content areas. The Diagnostic Test is made up of 12 questions from each of these same 4 content areas, for a total of 48 additional questions.

Quantitative Reasoning: Calculating ratios, proportions, and percents, as well as identifying, manipulating, and interpreting linear equations and expressions.

Algebraic Reasoning: Solving equations (linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, rational, and radical), evaluating functions, and solving algebraic problems in context.

Geometric and Spatial Reasoning: Converting units within measurement systems, solving geometric problems (perimeter, area, surface area, and volume), performing transformations, and applying right triangle trigonometry.

Probabilistic and Statistical Reasoning: Classifying data, constructing appropriate representations of data, computing and interpreting probability, and describing measures of center and spread of data.

WHAT MATHEMATICS SCORES GET ME TO A COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSE?

You're considered college ready in two ways:

1. If you score in the range of 950–990 on the CRC Test **or**
2. If you score below 950 on the CRC Test but receive a diagnostic level of 6 on the Diagnostic Test.

If your scores don't meet these criteria, you may be placed in a developmental course or provided with an appropriate intervention. You may also be placed in a corequisite model course, where you enroll in a college-level course while taking a developmental education course/intervention to help ensure your success in the college-level course. Contact the adviser at your college or university for more information.

For more on TSIA2, contact an adviser or counselor at your institution. NOTE: Any references in this brochure to developmental courses, interventions, and corequisite models aren't applicable to high school students seeking to enroll in college-level coursework via dual credit.