

TSI TESTING EXEMPTIONS

Any student who has been determined to be exempt in mathematics, reading, and/or writing shall not be required to enroll in developmental coursework and/or interventions in the corresponding area of exemption. The following students shall be exempt from the requirements of Administrative Code Title 19, including the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>), whereby exempt students shall not be required to provide additional demonstration of college readiness and shall be allowed to enroll in any entry-level freshman course as defined in 19 Administrative Code 4.53(12):

1. For a period of five years from the date of testing, a student who is tested and performs at or above the following standards that cannot be raised by institutions:
 - a. **ACT:** Composite score of 23 with a minimum score of 19 on the English test shall be exempt for both the reading and writing sections of the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) assessment, and/or 19 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) assessment; or
 - b. **SAT:**
 - **SAT administered prior to March 2016*:** Combined critical reading (formerly “verbal”) and mathematics score of 1070 with a minimum score of 500 on both **critical reading** and mathematics is required for both reading and writing sections of the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) assessment; a combined critical reading (formerly “verbal”) and mathematics score of 1070 with a minimum of 500 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) assessment.
 - **SAT administered on or after March 5, 2016*:** Minimum score of 480 on the Evidenced-Based and Writing (EBRW) test shall be exempt for both reading and writing sections of the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) assessment; a minimum score of 530 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI assessment. There is no combined score to exempt students from all 3 sections of the TSI. (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>)
2. Mixing or combining scores from the SAT administration prior to March, 2016 and the SAT administered on or after March, 2016 is not allowable. For a period of five years from the date of testing, a student who is tested and performs at or above the following standards (on state assessments) that cannot be raised by institutions:
 - a. On the **eleventh grade exit-level Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)** with a minimum scale score of 2200 on the mathematics section and/or a minimum scale score of 2200 on the English language arts section with

a writing subsection score of at least 3, shall be exempt from the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) assessment required under Title 19 for those corresponding sections; or

- b. **STAAR end-of-course (EOC)** with a minimum Level 2 score of 4000 on the English III shall be exempt from the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) assessment required under this title for both reading and writing, and a minimum Level 2 score of 4000 on the Algebra II EOC shall be exempt from the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) assessment required under this title for the mathematics section.
3. A student who has graduated with an associate or baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education.
4. A student who transfers to an institution from a private or independent institution of higher education or an accredited out-of-state institution of higher education and who has satisfactorily completed college-level coursework as determined by the receiving institution.
5. A student who has previously attended any institution and has been determined to have met readiness standards by that institution. For students meeting non-Algebra intensive readiness standards in mathematics as defined in 19 Administrative Code 4.59 (relating to determination of readiness to perform entry-level freshman coursework), institutions may choose to require additional preparatory coursework/interventions for Algebra intensive courses, including MATH-1314 College Algebra/MATH-1324 Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences.
6. A student who is enrolled in a certificate program of one year of less (Level One certificates, 42 or fewer semester credit hours or the equivalent).
7. A student who successfully completes a college preparatory course under Education Code 28.014 is exempt for a period of 24 months from the date of high school graduation with respect to the content areas of the course. The student must enroll in the first college-level course in the exempted content area in the student's first year of enrollment with TVCC. This exemption applies only to students who completed the college preparatory course with an ISD that partnered with TVCC to provide the course. Students with a TSI exemption for a college preparatory course who earn less than a C in the students' first college-level course in the exempted content area will be required to demonstrate college readiness by enrolling in a co requisite model developmental pathway.
8. A student who is serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States, the Texas National Guard, or for at least the three-year period preceding enrollment, as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States; or
9. A student who on or after August 1, 1990, was 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 serves as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States.

10. GED—Only on tests taken after 8/23/2016 : **minimum score of 165 on the Mathematical Reasoning subject test** shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI Assessment. A minimum score of 165 on the Reasoning Through Language Arts (RLA) subject test shall be exempt for the English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) section of the TSI Assessment.
11. HiSET—Only on tests taken after 8/23/2016: minimum score of 15 on the Mathematics subtest shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI Assessment. A minimum score of 15 on the Reading subtest and a minimum score of 15 of the Writing subtest, including a minimum score of 4 on the essay will be exempt from the ELAR section of the TSI Assessment.

Students who meet one of the following testing criteria can be partially exempt from the TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) requirements using the following qualifying standards on the ACT, SAT, TAKS, or STAAR EOC tests **with scores that are no more than five years old from the date of testing:**

ACT Reading & Writing: Composite score of 23 or higher with a score of 19 or higher on the English subtest. Student must take the math section of a test approved for TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) purposes.

ACT Math: Composite score of 23 or higher with a score of 19 or higher on the math subtest. Student must take the reading and writing sections of a test approved for TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) purposes./

SAT Reading & Writing administered prior to March 2016¹: Composite score of 1070 or higher with a score of 500 or higher on the critical reading subtest. Student must take the math section of a test approved for TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) purposes.

SAT Reading & Writing administered on or after March 5, 2016¹: Minimum score of 480 on the Evidenced-Based and Writing (EBRW) is required for exemption on both reading and writing sections

SAT Math administered prior to March 2016¹: A composite score of 1070 or higher, with a score of 500 or higher on the math subtest. Student must take the reading and writing sections of a test approved for TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) purposes.

SAT Math administered on or after March 5, 2016¹: minimum score of 530 on the mathematics test is required for exemption on the mathematics sections.

¹ *Combining scores from the SAT administered prior to March 2016 and the SAT administered on or after March 5, 2016 is not allowable.*

Note: The composite score and the subtest scores of the SAT/ACT must be earned on the same test administration.

***ACT and SAT partial exemptions are only valid for tests dated April 2004 or later.**

STAAR End-of Course (EOC) Reading and Writing: Minimum of Level 2 (4000) on the English III EOC. Student must take the math section of a test approved for TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) purposes.

STAAR End-of Course (EOC) Math: Minimum of Level 2 (4000) on Algebra II EOC for mathematics. Student must take the reading and writing sections of a test approved for TSI (<https://coursecatalog.tvcc.edu/admission-registration/testing/tsi-testing-requirements/>) purposes.