A Primer on Success Points  
Community/Technical Colleges

Background
Based on the premise that educational achievement includes more than just traditional, terminal accomplishments, the Milestones Model was developed to measure the performance of institutions in a way that would promote their efforts to increase the rate of student progression and achievement.

Success points are measurable attainments correlated with the completion of a milestone. And by measuring them, we can accurately gauge institutions’ progress in helping students succeed. Milestones can be sets of courses (such as a developmental education series), particular courses (such as first college level courses) or levels of educational attainment.

The Milestones

How are Points/Funding Calculated?
Since the points are based on milestones achieved, an individual student can earn multiple points. For illustrative purposes, based on data currently collected, points are awarded for students who enroll in current year:

- Became college ready (met TSI standards in math, reading, or writing); 2 points, one each for math and .5 reading, .5 writing
- Completed the first college level math course; 1 point
- Completed the first college level reading/writing course; .5 point reading, .5 point writing, 1 point reading/writing intensive
- Completed their first 15 hours; 1 point
- Completed their first 30 hours; 1 point
- Earned a degree or certificate; 2 points
- Earned a degree or certificate in a critical field; additional 0.25 point
- Transferred after having completed 15 hours; 2 points

The total number of points across all institutions is divided into the funding available to derive a dollar per point amount. Once multiplied by the number of points for each institution, the result is the amount of success point funding per institution.

The cohort is the unduplicated number of students enrolled in the fiscal year being measured for success points. The program tracks students back two fiscal years into CBM001 (enrollment) data to find the first time (FTUG) enrolled. Students who are enrolled for the first time in the fiscal year measured can also be counted as first time. The FTUG flag is only applicable when determining readiness within 2

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years. Other points, based on successfully completed hours, are from the CBM002 (Texas Success Initiative Report) and the CBM005 (Student Schedule Report). The points are earned by how students performed:

- **Measure 1: College Readiness Math**
  Methodology: Determine student’s readiness as first time undergraduate (FTUG). Only students who are not ready in math as FTUG can potentially qualify for a point. If the student is not ready as FTUG at either the same institution or another institution, but became ready for the first time at the same institution as the cohort record in math in year measured, then a point is awarded.

- **Measure 1: College Readiness Reading**
  Methodology: Determine student’s readiness as first time undergraduate (FTUG). Only students who are not ready in reading as FTUG can potentially qualify for a point. If the student is not ready as FTUG at either the same institution or another institution, but became ready for the first time at the same institution as the cohort record in reading in year measured, then a .5 point is awarded.

- **Measure 1: College Readiness Writing**
  Methodology: Determine student’s readiness as first time undergraduate (FTUG). Only students who are not ready in writing as FTUG can potentially qualify for a point. If the student is not ready as FTUG at either the same institution or another institution, but became ready for the first time at the same institution as the cohort record in writing in year measured, then a .5 point is awarded.

- **Measure 2: Complete First College-Level Math Course**
  Methodology: Student passes first college level math course at same institution as the cohort record with “A”, “B” or “C” in fiscal year measured.

- **Measure 3: Complete First College-Level Reading/Writing Course**
  Methodology: Student passes first college level reading/writing course at same institution as the cohort record with “A”, “B” or “C” in fiscal year measured.

- **Measure 4: 15 Completed Hours**
  Methodology: Accumulate student’s completed hours from 3 previous years, plus the year being measured. If the student reaches at least 15 completed hours at same institution as the cohort record for the first time in year measured, then a point is awarded.

- **Measure 5: 30 Completed Hours**
  Methodology: Accumulate student’s completed hours from 3 previous years, plus the year being measured. If the student reaches at least 30 completed hours at same institution as the cohort record for the first time in year measured, then a point is awarded.

- **Measure 6: Degrees, Core Curriculum Completers and Certificates Awarded**
  Methodology: Point is awarded to a student who completes a degree, certificate or core curriculum completer (CCC). Unduplicated degrees and certificates awarded in the fiscal year being measured are counted. Highest award is selected based on the following order (BAT, Associates, Core Curriculum Completer, Certificate Level 1/2 or Advanced Technology Certificate). This measure is not tied to the cohort for readiness, first college-level course, completed hours or transfer.
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- **Measure 7: Graduates in Critical Fields**
  Methodology: Point is awarded to a student who completes a degree or certificate in a STEM or allied health major. Unduplicated degrees and certificates awarded in the fiscal year being measured. Highest award is selected based on the following order (BAT, Associates, Certificate Level 1/2 or Advanced Technology Certificate). This is not tied to the cohort for readiness, first college-level course, completed hours or transfer. Majors includes CIPs ("11" "14" "15" "27" "40" "3001" "5116" "5138" "5139" "5102" "5106" "5107" "5108" "5109" "5110" "5118" "5123" "5126" "5127" "5199" "5131" "5132" "5133" "5134"). Students who earned an award are counted in this measure and can also be counted in measure 6. Critical graduates are a subset of all degrees and certificates.

- **Measure 8: Transfer point**
  Methodology: Accumulate student’s completed hours from 3 previous years, plus the year being measured. If student completed at least 15 hours at the same institution as the cohort record and is found at public/private four year institution for the first time in year measured, then point is awarded.

CBM001:
- Item 2 – Institution Code
- Item 3 – Student Identification Number
- Item 9 - First-Time-in-College
- Item 18 – Semester

CBM002:
- Item 2 – Institution Code
- Item 3 – Student Identification Number

Previous Version through Fall 2008:
- Item 10 Semester Credit Hours Completed
- Item 20A Math TSI Satisfaction at Previous Institution Code (value>0)
- Item 20B Math TSI Satisfaction Date (value>0)
- Item 22B Math TSI Obligation (value=3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Item 23B Math TSI Initial Assessment (value=1, 0)
- Item 25B CB-Approved College-Level Math Course Grade (value=1, 2, 3)
- Item 30A Writing TSI Satisfaction at Previous Institution Code (value>0)
- Item 30B Writing TSI Satisfaction Date (value>0)
- Item 32B Writing TSI Obligation (value=3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Item 33B Writing TSI Initial Assessment (value=1, 0)
- Item 35B CB-Approved College-Level Writing Course Grade (value=1, 2, 3)
- Item 40A Reading TSI Satisfaction at Previous Institution Code (value>0)

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(How the Success Points are defined via collected data)

- Item 40B Reading TSI Satisfaction Date (value>0)
- Item 42B Reading TSI Obligation (value=3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Item 43B Read TSI Initial Assessment (value=1, 0)
- Item 45B CB-Approved College-Level Reading Course Grade (value=1, 2, 3)

**Newer Versions Beginning Spring 2009**

- Item 10A Semester Credit Hours Completed – Academic (summer 2011 onward, this information comes from CBM00S)
- Item 11A Semester Credit Hours Completed – Technical (summer 2011 onward, this information comes from CBM00S)
- Item 20 Math TSI Obligation Determined To Be Satisfied Based on the State Standard Met by Census Date or Determined To Be Exempted (value=1, 2)
- Item 24 Math TSI Obligation Satisfied Based on the State Standard by the End of the Semester/Reporting Period (value=1,2)
- Item 33 CB-Approved First College-Level Math Course Grade (value=1, 2, 3)
- Item 40 Reading TSI Obligation Determined To Be Satisfied Based on the State Standard Met by Census Date or Determined To Be Exempted (value=1, 2)
- Item 44 Reading TSI Obligation Satisfied based on the State Standard by the End of the Semester/Reporting Period (value=1,2)
- Item 53 CB-Approved First College-Level Reading Course Grade (value=1, 2, 3)
- Item 60 Writing TSI Obligation Determined To Be Satisfied based on the State Standard Met by Census Date or Determined To Be Exempted (value=1, 2)
- Item 64 Writing TSI Obligation Satisfied (value=1,2)
- Item 73 CB-Approved First College-Level Writing Course Grade (value=1, 2, 3)

**CBM00S:**

- Item 2 – Institution Code
- Item 3 – Student Identification Number
- Item 10 – Semester Credit Hour Value
- Item 22 - Developmental Education Course/Intervention Level (value=0)
- Item 23 – First College-Level Course (value=1, 2, 3, 4: Edit check to prevent grades other than A, B or C if >0)
- Item 24 – Course Grade (value=1, 2, 3, 4, 8 used to get only successfully completed hours)
- Item 29 – Semester

**CBM009:**

- Item 2 – Institution Code
- Item 3 – Student Identification Number
- Item 8 - Level of Award
- Item 9 – Major
**Success Points Data Flow**
(How the Success Points are defined via collected data)

- **Match to CBM001 to find first time enrolled (FTUG) in previous 2 years or fiscal year being measured**
- **CTC enrollment in fiscal year measured (includes regular, dual and flex entry)**
- **Unduplicated awards in year measured (BAT, Associates, Core Curriculum Completer, Certificate Level 1 or 2, Advanced Technology Certificate) (2 points)**
- **Unduplicated graduates in critical fields in year measured (BAT, Associates, Certificate Level 1 or 2, Advanced Technology Certificate) (0.25 additional point)**
- **Transfer: Completed 15 hours at same institution as cohort record and found at public/private four-year institution for the 1st time in year measured (2 points)**
- **Accumulated 30 completed hours at same institution as cohort record for the 1st time in year measured (1 point)**
- **Accumulated 15 completed hours at same institution as cohort record for the 1st time in year measured (1 point)**
- **Successfully passed 1st college level read/write course at same institution as cohort record with A, B or C for the 1st time in year measured (1 point: .5 read, .5 write or 1 read/write intensive)**
- **Successfully passed 1st college level math course at same institution as cohort record with A, B or C for the 1st time in year measured (1 point)**
- **Not ready as FTUG but became ready for the 1st time at same institution as cohort record in (reading/writing) in year measured (.5 read/.5 write)**
- **Not ready as FTUG but became ready for the 1st time at same institution as cohort record in (math) in year measured (1 point)**
- **Match to CBM002 (Texas Success Initiative Report) 2 previous years or fiscal year being measured**