TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) LAWS for dual credit/concurrent enrollment High School Students

The Texas Success Initiative is a state law designed to make sure that each student taking college level academic coursework is “College Ready.” The law changed dramatically on August 26, 2013. Some of the new rules are completely different from the old rules. If you do not have any previous college credit you are required to follow these new rules. A student who plans to enroll in both high school and college courses at the same time must prove “College Readiness” according to the guidelines in the law. The law covers three specific areas—reading, writing, and math.

High School Students are required to meet TSI obligations only in the areas required by the college level coursework they are taking. For example: a student who wants to take ENGL 1301 must only meet the reading and writing obligation – not the math obligation. You are only required to meet the math obligation if you are taking a college math course. High School students are not required to take Vernon College developmental coursework while still in high school.

According to the law, a student may show “College Readiness” by meeting one of the exemptions listed below. There are other TSI exemptions – the ones listed below are the only ones that might apply to students who are still in high school.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>READING &amp; WRITING</th>
<th>MATH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>Composite Score of 23 and an English score of 19</td>
<td>Composite Score of 23 and a Math score of 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>Composite Score of 1070 and a Critical Reading score of 500</td>
<td>Composite Score of 1070 and a Math score of 500</td>
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</tbody>
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For Students who will be SENIORS in FALL 2014:
You may be able to use your STAAR EOC test grades as an exemption. If you do not meet the scores listed below or an exemption listed above you must take the TSI Assessment before you can enroll in Vernon College classes.

| End of Course Exams STAAR Testing | English II EOC (10th grade) 2000 on Reading AND Writing or English III EOC (11th grade) 2000 on Reading AND Writing | Algebra II EOC 4000 required score |

For Students who will be JUNIORS in FALL 2014:
The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) receives STAAR EOC exemptions from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). At this time no STAAR EOC exemptions have been set. As of February 19, 2014 we do not know when any exemption scores will be set. We encourage you to take the Texas Success Initiative Assessment so that you are able to enroll in Vernon College courses for Fall 2014 without any delay.
If you do not meet one of the exemptions listed you will be required to take and pass the Texas Success Initiative Assessment before you can enroll in college level academic coursework. The Accuplacer or THEA tests can no longer be used to meet this requirement. The ONLY approved placement test is the Texas Success Initiative Assessment.

The TSI Assessment is offered by appointment at our Century City or Vernon Campus. The Texas Success Initiative Assessment is:

- Mandatory for all public colleges and universities in Texas
- Required by the State of Texas to measure your ability to read, write, and do math at a college level
- Computerized testing consisting of a multiple choice exam as well as a writing sample— you will receive your results as soon as you finish the exam
- Untimed and usually takes several hours to complete
- Requires that you complete a PreAssessment Activity. The PreAssessment Activity can be found at the Vernon College Website – www.vernoncollege.edu
- Will provide you a multipage print out so that you can see in what areas you did well and in what areas you did poorly
- Costs $30 for all 3 sections or $10 for each individual section

### Passing Scores for the TSI Assessment

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>363 with an essay of 4</td>
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</tbody>
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You must call ahead to schedule your testing appointment!
Vernon Campus Testing Center – 940-552-6291 ext 2317
Wichita Falls Century City Center Testing Center – 940-696-8752 ext 3278
More information on Testing Services at Vernon College can be found at http://www.vernoncollege.edu/Testing/ContactInformation.aspx

Vernon College also accepts TSI Assessment scores from other colleges – Midwestern State University and Texas State Technical College. However, we can not access these scores electronically. If you take the TSI Assessment at a school other than Vernon College please make sure to hand carry your scores to the Student Services Offices or fax them to 940-689-3875 attn: Kristin Harris.

**PLEASE CALL or EMAIL ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS**

KRISTIN HARRIS
Associate Dean of Student Services
kharris@vernoncollege.edu
940-552-6291 ext 2312 or 940-696-8752 ext 3304

Revised 2/14