

# College Readiness in Texas

## Preparing Students for the TSI Assessment

### College Readiness in Texas in 2015

Although more Texas students are taking exams such as the SAT, fewer students are demonstrating college readiness.

**41.9%**

Nationally, **41.9%** of students graduating in 2015 met the SAT college and career readiness benchmark.

**31.8%**

In Texas, only **31.8%** of graduating students met that benchmark,<sup>1</sup> the lowest percentage in two decades.<sup>2</sup>

**33.9%**

In 2014, **33.9%** met the benchmark.<sup>3</sup>

The percentage of graduating students meeting the benchmark dropped from 2014 to 2015

### The Role of the TSI Assessment in College Readiness

**2008**

In 2008, Texas became the first state to implement a series of standards to measure college and career readiness.<sup>4</sup>

From 2008 to 2014, the percentage of college-ready students jumped from 44% to 54%.<sup>6</sup>

**54%**

In 2013 the **Texas Success Initiative (TSI)** assessment was implemented to create a single statewide college-readiness standard.

## The Importance of the TSI Assessment

The impact of the TSI Assessment has been far-reaching:

Schools in the Collegiate Academy phase of becoming an Early College per TEA must have a minimum number of students meet the TSI passing standard.

In addition, high school students must be in compliance with the TSI assessment before receiving dual credit in early college/dual credit programs, unless exempt.

Students enrolling at a Texas institution of higher education must take the TSI assessment to demonstrate college readiness, unless exempt.<sup>5</sup>

Those students who do not pass one or all parts of the TSI assessment must enroll in an appropriate developmental education course before they can enroll in a credit-bearing course for the subjects in which they did not meet state standards.

And the TSI requirements are set to change, as the scores required to demonstrate college readiness will go up in 2017 and again in 2019...

Math

Reading

Required Scores in 2019

**369**

**359**

Required Scores in 2017

**356**

**355**

Current Required Scores

**350**

**351**

In the fall of 2017 and again in the fall of 2019, students will have to score higher in math and reading in order to be considered college-ready according to the TSI assessment.

## Preparing students for the TSI Assessment

Failing to prepare = Preparing to fail

Effective test preparation should offer:



Targeted, individualized learning based on assessment



Instruction beyond "test prep" for a deeper understanding of concepts tested



Student-centered active learning

Effective digital curriculum such as that found in Apex Learning Courses and Tutorials provides rigor aligned to standards and actively engages students, resulting in more learning happening.

Visit our website to learn more about TSI Readiness Tutorials.

[ApexLearning.com](http://ApexLearning.com)

[@Apex\\_Learning](https://twitter.com/Apex_Learning)

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/education/2015/09/03/sat-scores-in-texas-plummet-as-more-students-take-exam>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/education/2015/09/03/sat-scores-in-texas-plummet-as-more-students-take-exam>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.collegeboard.org/program-results/2014/texas>

<sup>4</sup> [tea.texas.gov/student-assessment/hb3plan/HB3-Sec1Ch3.pdf](http://tea.texas.gov/student-assessment/hb3plan/HB3-Sec1Ch3.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> <https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/accuplacer-tsi-assessment-student-brochure.pdf>