The Texas Success Initiative

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a state mandate that requires students to be assessed in reading, writing and math skills prior to enrolling in college, and to be advised based on the results of that assessment (See TSI Rules). For students enrolling without a TSI Exemption, they will be required to take the TSI Assessment, to measure student proficiency in the basic areas of study for fulfillment of the TSI requirement. Students are required to enroll in developmental education coursework if they do not reach the college level standard on the TSI Assessment prior to the start of a semester. Students are granted unlimited opportunities to take the TSI Assessment prior to a semester before being required to enroll in developmental education.

Students required to take the TSI Assessment are subject to the following standards to be considered college-ready:

- Reading - 351
- Math - 350
- Writing - Essay score of 5 or 4 and a multiple choice score of 340

If you are a student that requires the TSI Assessment, please see the UTD Testing Center website for information on how to take the test: UTD Testing Center

Note: If you are a student with a TSI Hold on your record, you must contact your academic advisor regarding registration options and policies. Proof of a TSI Exemption or enrollment in developmental coursework may be required.

Texas Success Initiative State Regulations - Texas Legislative Requirements

Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4 of the Texas Administrative Code describes in detail the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) for Texas public institutions of higher education.

Texas Success Initiative Transfer Student Provisions

Students transferring to UT Dallas from private or out-of-state institutions must meet TSI requirements (be tested or exempted) prior to being allowed to enroll in any college-level work. Students who transfer accumulated semester credit hours to UT Dallas from a private or out-of-state United States institution may use certain transferred courses which are given common course numbers corresponding to courses approved by UT Dallas to satisfy TSI requirements. Students must have earned a course grade of C (2.00 on a 4.00 scale) or better in the corresponding courses to meet TSI requirements. If coursework does not satisfy exemption requirements, students must be tested for the remaining skill areas and must comply with all other TSI requirements. Students transferring from other Texas public institutions of higher education must be TSI exempted or comply with the UT Dallas policies for Developmental Education.

Students entering UT Dallas are permitted to enroll in upper division (3000 and 4000 level) courses for which they have completed the prerequisites while completing the TSI requirements. However no student with 60 or more earned credit hours and having attempted any credit hours at UT Dallas shall be permitted to register for upper division courses without having satisfied all TSI requirements.