

## Advisement Plan for Academic Success

### I. Mission/Purpose

Grayson College will significantly improve the success of underprepared students by addressing their individualized needs through reliable diagnostic assessment, comprehensive support services, and non-traditional interventions, including modular, accelerated learning, non-course competency-based, technologically based, and integrated instructional models. Student success and completion are at the core of every advisement plan.

### II. Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA) ~ Texas Education Code Sec. 51.333

The Texas Success Initiative Assessment is a state-required assessment test to determine college-readiness in reading, writing, and math. All entering students must take the TSIA before enrolling in classes unless exempt or complete.

Exemptions include: Texas Education Code Sec. 51.338

- Prior Academic Experience
  - Associate or Baccalaureate Degree from an Institution of higher education (IHE)
  - Transfer from an IHEs with satisfactorily completed coursework.
    - Math: received an A, B, or C, at any time, in any college-level math course
    - ELAR: received an A, B, or C, at any time, in any college-level English course
- Non-degree seeking
- Certificate programs of 1-year or less
- Military Services: DD 214 Form
- A student who successfully completes a college preparatory course as allowed by the Texas Education Agency is exempt for a period of 24 (twenty-four) months from the date of high school graduation with respect to the content area of the course.
- Multiple Measures – a combination of high school GPA and fourth year ELA/Math course grade:
  - TSIA Math Exemption - Overall high school GPA of 3.0 or higher GPA and four years of high school math with the fourth-year math course being one of the following with a grade of B or higher: Precalculus, Calculus 1, or Calculus 2
  - TSIA Reading/Writing Exemption - Overall high school GPA of 3.0 or higher GPA and four years of English including any of the following courses with a B or better in the fourth year English course: ENG 1, ENG II, ENG III, ENG IV, Research/Technical Writing, Creative Writing, Practical Writing Skills, Literary Genres, Humanities, Visual Media Analysis and Production, Business English, Independent Study In English, Legal Research and Writing, AP English Language And Composition, or AP English Literature and Composition.

- College Readiness Standards for SAT, ACT, TAKS, STAAR EOC within the last 5 years.

TEST	READING & WRITING EXEMPTION	MATH EXEMPTION
SAT (March 2016 and later)	480 Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	530 Math
ACT taken prior to 2/15/23	23 Composite with 19 English	23 Composite with 19 Math
ACT taken on/after 2/15/23	Combined score of 40 on English and Reading	22 Math
TAKS	2200 ELA (English Language Arts) with 3+ Writing sub-score	2200 Math
STAAR	4000 on the English III (EOC)	4000 on the Algebra II (EOC)
GED	165 on the Reasoning Through Language Arts (RLA) for the English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) Exemption.	165 on the Mathematical Reasoning
HiSET	15 on the Reading subtest, a minimum score of 15 on the Writing Subtest with a minimum score of 4 on the essay, for English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) Exemption	15 on the Mathematics subtest Math Exemption

**Notes:**

- Scores from ACT tests taken before and after 2/15/23 can be combined.
- Mixing or combining scores from the SAT administered prior to March 2016 and the SAT administered March 2016 and later, is not allowable.
- HiSET will no longer administer tests after 8/31/2021 in Texas. Therefore, any tests taken after the 8/31/2021 test date will not be useable for the TSIA exemption.

**III. Pre-Assessment Activity**

All students are required to participate in a Pre-Assessment Activity before attempting the TSI Assessment. This activity will address the following topics: the importance of assessment, the testing process and sample questions with feedback, remediation option, and institutional and community resources.

The pre-assessment activity is at the following URL:

<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/free-TSIAa2-pre-assessment-and-practice-resources>

#### IV. TSI Assessment Placement Scores

Approved college ready cut-scores are as follows:

- Mathematics - 950 or higher, or 949 or lower with a diagnostic score of 6
- ELAR - 945 or higher with an essay score of 5, or 944 or lower with a diagnostic score of 5 and an essay score of 5

State Approved Minimum Scores to be TSIA Complete, effective January 11, 2021

Assessment	English, Language Arts & Reading (ELAR)	Math
TSIA	945 and an Essay of 5 or more or Less than 945 and a Diagnostic Level of 5 or more and an Essay of 5 or more	950 or Less than 950 and Diagnostic Level of 6

State-Approved Minimum Scores to be TSIA complete for assessment taken prior to January 11, 2021 (good for 5 years from date of exam, if presented for placement and enrollment at any college or university within 5 years of the test date.)

Assessment	Reading	Writing	Math
TSIA	351	*5 or 4/340	350

Note\* Essay score of 4 and multiple choice of 340 or higher; OR multiple choice of less than 340, and ABE diagnostic level of at least 4, and essay of at least 5.

#### V. Differentiated Placement

Students who do not meet the college readiness scores above will receive remediation as follows:

- Math - Students with a 949 or lower with a diagnostic score of 4 or 5 will be advised to take the paired course option that is appropriate for their major's pathway. Pathways with non-algebraic courses, MATH 1332, or MATH 1342, will be paired with MATH 0220, and pathways with College Algebra, MATH 1314, will be paired with a MATH 0240 lab course. Students with a 949 or lower with a diagnostic score of 3 will use multiple measures to determine if they should be mainstreamed with the remediation described above or referred to the AEL Program. Students with a 949 or lower with a diagnostic score of 1 or 2 will be referred to the AEL Program for remediation. Students must successfully pass the paired corequisite courses with a grade of C or better to be TSIA complete.
- English - Students with a score of 944 or lower with a diagnostic score of 4 and an essay score of 4 or 5 will be advised to take the paired course option, where ENGL 1301 is paired with the INRW 0210 lab course. Students with a score of 944 or lower with a diagnostic score of 1 or 2 and an essay score of 3 or lower will be advised to seek remediation from our AEL Program. Students must successfully pass one of the paired corequisite courses with a grade of C or better to be considered TSIA complete.

## **VI. Grayson College Adult Education and Literacy (AEL)**

AEL provides instruction to students on the Grayson College campuses and in other convenient locations in Grayson, Fannin, Hunt, and Cooke counties. In addition to providing GED preparation and English language training, the Transitions program provides instruction and guidance to help students pursue their workforce and academic goals. This free service can help prepare students to pass the TSI Assessment or to improve their scores enough to qualify for the college's Developmental Education courses (see TSIA Placement Scores above). Please call 903-463- 8784 for more information.

## **VII. English as a Second or Other Language (ESOL)**

Grayson College provides English language training in two methods described below:

- Grayson College's English Language / Civics (EL/C) courses are offered by our AEL program. These free courses are designed to help students with limited English proficiency develop workplace literacy, academic literacy, and U.S. citizenship literacy that meets the goals of the individual student.
- Grayson College's INRW courses provide individualized ESOL instruction as needed. Additionally, a 15-hour waiver for well-qualified ESOL students allows qualified students to take college-level courses while concurrently receiving remediation in ESOL. (Students who are not TSI complete by the end of the waiver period may be restricted to enrollment options that support becoming college-ready in reading and writing.)

## **VIII. Integrated Reading and Writing (INRW)**

All developmental coursework in reading and writing is integrated. Students who have not met their TSI requirements in English Language Arts with Reading (ELAR) follow this instructional approach since both skills complement and support each other so closely.

## **IX. Math Pathways (STEM and non-STEM)**

Upon choosing a major, students are informed of the math requirements for that field of study. Many of the science, technology, engineering, and math majors require college algebra, while many of the other majors require either a contemporary math course or an elementary statistics course.

## **X. Retesting**

Students are encouraged to quickly demonstrate their college readiness in TSIA skill areas so that their continued progress will not be delayed. Students may retake the TSI Assessment at any time. Students who pass their TSI Assessment during a semester should notify their related developmental instructor immediately, as this may improve their grade and/or excuse them from selected assignments.

## **XI. Available Accelerated Options**

The following strategies are used to accelerate a student's skill acquisition in reading, writing, and math to better ensure his or her success in college-level courses.

- Integration of Developmental Education Reading and Writing -- Rather than dividing these skill areas into different courses that take longer to complete, the two complementary skill areas are combined into a single course curriculum.

- **Mainstreaming/Course-pairing** -- Students who are assessed and whose scores indicated that they are almost ready for college-level coursework may be given the opportunity to pair their college-level course(s) with an appropriate developmental course or NCBO, which will provide additional support in targeted skill areas while the student concurrently makes good progress in their college-level courses.
- **Non-Course Competency-Based Options (NCBOs)** -- These instructional options resemble normal courses in that they require students to attend class and complete required assignments; however, the assignments will be highly individualized to meet the unique needs of each student, building on strengths and addressing weaknesses. The instructional activities will be informed by the TSI Assessment diagnostic report and classroom performance.
- **Modular/Emporium-style Delivery** -- This instructional approach is primarily used for developmental math studies and involves a student working through modules of instruction in a self-paced manner while remaining under the supervision of a math instructor. Students can move more quickly than a normal course over familiar modular content and move more slowly over unfamiliar module content without being left behind by peer students.

## **XII. Instructional Labs**

Grayson College provides two instructional labs designed to both support course-specific learning activities (lab assignments) and promote college success (any appropriate assignment).

- Math Hub (for all levels of math instruction)
- Writing Center (for all levels of English instruction)

## **XIII. Reporting and Continuous Improvement**

Student progress from developmental instruction through college-level coursework is reported routinely to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Additionally, it is evaluated by Grayson College as part of our annual planning process designed to promote continuous improvement in our instructional approaches.

## **XIV. Diagnostic Profile**

The Diagnostic Profile is part of the feedback each student receives after completing their TSI Assessment. The graphic report rates a student's strengths and weaknesses, and this information helps students and instructors provide the appropriate focus for their remediation.