

Important Information

Texas Success Initiative

A primary focus of Odessa College is to provide students with the opportunity to learn and be successful in reaching their educational goals. All students who enter a public institution of higher education must meet the testing requirements for reading, writing and mathematics skills prior to enrollment in college level classes. The OC Testing Center offers the COMPASS test, which can be used to satisfy the testing requirement at OC. Performance on the test will not be used as a condition of admission to Odessa College. Please call the Testing Center at 432-335-6620 for more information.

Some students are exempt from the testing requirements. Please see the list of exemptions and deferments on page 9. If you have questions regarding exemptions/deferments, please stop by the Wrangler Express Center, located on the first floor of the Student Union Building or call an OC counselor at 432-335-6433.

Texas Success Initiative Testing Requirements	
TEST	MINIMUM PASSING REQUIREMENTS
COMPASS – Administered by Odessa College	Reading Skills81 Algebra 39 * 60 or higher required for College Algebra Writing Skills (objective)..... 59 Written Essay 6
THEA – Administered statewide. Odessa College is an official testing site.	Reading 230 Mathematics 230 * 270 or higher required for College Algebra. Writing 220 Minimum passing score of 6 on written essay. Scores of 5 will be considered passing if the student’s score on the objective section meets or exceeds minimum standards.
ASSET – Official scores required.	Reading41 Writing 40 Written Essay 6 Elementary Algebra 38
ACCUPLACER – Official scores required.	Reading 79 Sentence Skills 80 Written Essay 6 Elementary Algebra 63
* In some skill areas Odessa College has determined minimum scores for eligibility to enroll in college level work are higher than minimum state requirements. Please contact your advisor regarding these requirements.	

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Exemptions/Deferments	
BASIS FOR EXEMPTION	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
ACT Test Results Scores are valid for 5 years from date of test	Composite score of 23, with 19 in math and/or English exempts for corresponding sections
SAT Test Results Scores are valid for 5 years from date of test	Combined score of 1070, with 500 in math and/or critical reading exempts for corresponding sections
PSAT/NMSQT An eleventh-grade high school student is exempt from placement test if he/she achieves the specified requirements.	Combined score of 107 on the PSAT/NMSQT with a minimum of 50 on the critical reading and/or mathematics test relevant to the courses to be attempted
ACT PLAN An eleventh-grade high school student is exempt from placement test if he/she achieves the specified requirements.	Composite score of 23 on the PLAN with a 19 or higher in mathematics AND English
TAKS Test Results Scores are valid for 3 years from date of testing	2200 in math. Lower score requires testing in math. 2200 AND 3 writing subscore in ELA (English/language arts). Lower scores require testing in reading and writing.
College degree previously earned	Associate degree or higher
Transfer students from accredited private or out-of-state institution of higher education	Grades of C or higher in equivalent English, math or reading courses will be evaluated and will normally be used to document readiness.
Previous coursework at another higher education institution to document readiness	Grades of C or higher in equivalent English, math or reading readiness courses or college level courses
Level 1 Certificate students	Technical programs with 42 or fewer semester credit hours
Current military service	Students who are serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States, Texas National Guard or reserve component of the armed forces of the U.S. and have been serving for at least three years preceding enrollment.
Previous military service	Students who on or after August 1, 1990, were honorably discharged, retired or released from active duty as a member of the armed forces of the U.S. or Texas National Guard or service as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States.
Students not seeking a degree or certificate – testing deferred	Students wishing to enroll in classes for personal enrichment. Those classes must not be of the nature to require college level skills in reading, writing or math. Maximum of 18 hours, cumulative.
New students choosing to take only developmental coursework	Allowed to enroll first semester without testing. Testing required before student is permitted to enroll for college level coursework.