

Odessa College Success Initiative Plan

A primary focus of Odessa College is to provide students with the opportunity to learn and be successful in reaching their educational goals. A significant part of providing these opportunities rests in activities to determine the college readiness of each person who enrolls for credit classes at the college. An individual who is not able to demonstrate college readiness in reading, writing, and/or mathematics will be directed to appropriate programs to bring those skills to the college readiness level through the college's *Success Initiative Plan*.

Odessa College's *Success Initiative Plan* has been developed in compliance with the requirements of the Texas Education Code, Sections 51.307, 51.3062, and 51.403(e). The official transcript of each student will clearly indicate the student's status for college readiness according to the Odessa College *Success Initiative Plan*.

All students enrolling at Odessa College on or after September 1, 2003, fall under the provisions of this *Success Initiative Plan*.

Success Initiative requirements for students admitted and enrolled at Odessa College under the terms of the previous Developmental Education Plan will be according to the following

- Previous exemptions will remain valid.
- Developmental standards previously satisfied in any skill area under the previous plan will remain valid.
- Developmental standards not met in a skill area will be satisfied according to the terms of this *Success Initiative Plan*.

Success Initiative Standards

Prospective students may demonstrate college readiness by presenting official documentation of the approved exemption or passing scores on any of the approved tests.

Exemptions/Deferments No Testing Required

Basis for Exemption	Requirements
ACT Test Results Scores are valid for 5 yrs from date of testing.	Composite score of 23 with a minimum of 19 on both the English and math tests
SAT Test Results Scores are valid for 5 years from date of test.	Combined verbal and math score of 1070 or higher with a minimum of 500 on both the verbal and math tests
TAAS Test Results Scores are valid for 3 years from date of	Minimum scale score of 1770 on the writing test, TLI of 86 on the math test, and

testing.	89 on the reading test.
TAKS Test Results	Minimum of 2200 in math and/or 2200 with a writing subscore of at least 3 in English/Language Arts (ELA)
College Degree Previously Earned	Associates 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 US 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 US 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 for 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.

Testing Requirements
All New Students Not Exempt Must Test*

Test	Minimum Passing Requirements
COMPASS—Administered by Odessa College	Reading Skills 81 Algebra 39 Writing Skills (objective) 59 Written Essay 6
THEA—Administered statewide. Odessa College is an official testing site.	<i>Reading</i> 230 <i>Mathematics</i> 230, 270 or higher required for College Algebra. <i>Writing</i> 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 – Not administered by Odessa College. Official scores required.	Reading 41 Writing 40, Written Essay 6 Elementary Algebra 38
ACCUPLACER – Not administered by Odessa College. Official scores required.	Reading 78 Writing 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 see placement referral chart for each subject area.

Advising and Developmental Requirements

Students whose test scores do not demonstrate college readiness in an area will be advised by a college counselor or assigned advisor as to the appropriate developmental course sequence for each area where developmental work is indicated. Students will be provided with a course of study plan clearly showing all developmental work to be completed and standards that will be required to demonstrate college readiness to allow students to advance to college-level course work. (Copy attached)

Students must begin appropriate developmental work the first semester of enrollment. Students who do not make a passing score in any of the three areas will be advised to enroll for appropriate developmental course work in at least two of the three skill areas. Enrollment according to the student’s developmental plan will be continuous by semester until college readiness is documented by grades or test scores. Students who present test scores showing only one area of deficiency are required to enroll in appropriate coursework in that area the first semester of enrollment and continue until college readiness is documented by grades or by placement (THEA, COMPASS, etc.) test scores.

Acquiring and Demonstrating College Readiness

Tables presented herein show the recommended placement in each subject area based on scores presented by the student. In all areas, students who are placed in developmental courses based on test scores are required to earn a grade of C or higher in each developmental course in order to progress to the next course in the sequence and eventually into the appropriate college level course.

When students with initial test scores above the state minimum deviation score have earned a grade of C or higher in all courses in a developmental course sequence, they will have satisfied requirements in the Odessa College *Success Initiative* Plan and will be eligible to enroll for college level courses in the related skill area.

Students for whom retesting is required will have satisfied requirements in the Odessa College *Success Initiative* Plan and will be eligible to enroll for college level courses in the related skill area when they have

1. Earned a grade of C or higher in all courses in a developmental sequence; and either item 2 or 3, as follows.
2. Retested and earned a score at or above the state minimum deviation score for the subject area(s); or
3. Retested, earned a score less than the state minimum deviation score, and completed the first college level course in the skill area with a grade of C or higher.

Evaluation of Developmental Coursework from other Institutions

Odessa College will apply the same standards for coursework transferred to OC as it applies to its resident coursework in terms of meeting the standards of the *Success Initiative Plan*. Transfer grades in developmental courses that are lower than the grade of C will not be sufficient for the student to advance to the next course in the sequence or to the first college level course. The only exception will be for official designation on a transcript or other official documentation materials that the student has successfully met the *Success Initiative* standards of the sending institution.

College Readiness and Degree Completion

Students must demonstrate college readiness by meeting *Success Initiative* standards in all three of the skill areas to be eligible to receive an advanced skills (Level II) certificate or associate's degree from Odessa College.

Departmental Placement and Success Requirements

English/Writing

Test	Score	Course
THEA Scores below 205 require retesting.	Below 219	ENGL 0370
	220 or higher; 6 on Written Essay*	ENGL 1301
COMPASS Scores below 44 require retesting.	Below 58	ENGL 0370
	59 or higher; 6 on Written Essay*	ENGL 1301
ACCUPLACER Scores below 62 require retesting.	Below 79	ENGL 0370
	80 or higher; 6 on Written Essay*	ENGL 1301
ASSET Scores below 35 require retesting.	Below 39	ENGL 0370
	40 or higher; 6 on Written Essay*	ENGL 1301
*An essay with a score of 5 along with the minimum passing score for the objective portion of the test will satisfy <i>Success Initiative</i> requirements.		
Students who earn a grade of D or F in ENGL 0370 may reenroll for the same course or may enroll for ENGL 0171 before re-attempting ENGL 0370. A grade of C or higher or a passing score on an approved test is required for a student to progress to ENGL 1301.		

Reading

Test	Score	Course
THEA Scores below 201 require retesting.	200 or below	READ 0371 and 0372, 6 hrs required.
	201-229	READ 0372, 3 hrs required.
	220-229	May enroll concurrently in READ 0372 and a course identified as reading intensive**.
	230 or above.	College Ready*
COMPASS Scores below 64 require retesting.	0 – 64	READ 0371 and 0372, 6 hrs required.
	65 – 80	READ 0372, 3 hrs required.
	78 – 80	May enroll concurrently in READ 0372 and a course identified as reading intensive**.
	81 or above	College Ready*
ACCUPLACER Scores below 61 require retesting.	0 – 61	READ 0371 and 0372, 6 hrs required.
	62 – 77	READ 0372, 3 hrs required
	78 or above	College Ready*
ASSET Scores below 35 require retesting.	0 – 35	READ 0371 and 0372, 6 hrs required.
	36 – 40	READ 0372, 3 hrs required
	41 or above	College Ready*
<p>* While officially passing, scores between 230 and 250 on THEA or between 81 and 90 on Compass indicate a reading level equivalent to 10 –12 grade. Most college textbooks require a reading level between grades13 and 17. READ 0373 is highly recommended for students seeking to achieve higher reading skills, particularly students intending to study nursing or education.</p>		

****Reading Intensive Courses: HIST 1301, 1302; GOVT 2305, 2306; ENGL 1302, 2322, 2323, 2332, 2333, 2327, 2328.**

Mathematics

Test	Score	Course
<p>THEA Scores below 206 require retesting. The official passing score is 230 or higher.</p>	<p>0 – 150, with failing scores in Writing or Reading 151-189 190-229 230 – 249 250-269 270 or higher</p>	<p>MATH 0370, 0371, 0372, 0375 – 12 hours required. Math 0371, 0372, 0375 – 9 hours required. MATH 0372, 0375 – 6 hours required. MATH 0375 – 3 hours required. MATH 0375, 1332 or 1333 MATH 1314</p>
<p>COMPASS Scores below 23 require retesting. The official passing score is 39 or higher on the algebra test.</p>	<p>1 – 19 Pre Algebra, with a failing score in Writing or Reading 1 – 38, Pre Algebra 39 – 100, Pre Algebra or 1 – 38, Algebra Score 39- 49 Algebra Score 50 – 59 Algebra Score 60 or higher Algebra Score</p>	<p>MATH 0370, 0371, 0372, 0375 – 12 hours required. Math 0371, 0372, 0375 – 9 hours required. MATH 0372, 0375 – 6 hours required. MATH 0375, 3 hours required. MATH 0375, 1332 or 1333 MATH 1314</p>
<p>ACCUPLACER EA scores below 42 require retesting. <i>AR – Arithmetic Exam</i> <i>EAR – Elementary Algebra Exam</i> <i>CLM – College Level Mathematics Exam</i></p>	<p>AR less than 31 AR 31-57 or EAR \leq 30 AR 58-89 or EAR 31-55 EAR 56 – 80 or CLM \leq 39 EAR 81-108 or CLM 40-62 EAR 109+ or CLM 63+</p>	<p>MATH 0370, 0371, 0372, 0375 – 12 hours required Math 0371, 0372, 0375 – 9 hours required MATH 0372, 0375 – 6 hours required MATH 0375 MATH 0375, 1332 or 1333 MATH 1314</p>
<p>ASSET EAT scores below 30 require retesting. Passing score is 38 on EAT <i>NT – Numerical Test</i> <i>EAT – Elementary Algebra Test</i> <i>IAT – Intermediate Algebra Test</i></p>	<p>NT below 30 NT 30-40 NT 41-55 or EAT 25-35 EAT 36-46 or IAT 23-33 EAT 47 or higher or IAT 34-44 IAT 45 or higher</p>	<p>MATH 0370, 0371, 0372, 0375 – 12 hours required MATH 0371, 0372, 0375 – 9 hours required MATH 0372, 0375 – 6 hours required MATH 0375 MATH 0375, 1332 or 1333 MATH 1314</p>

Progress After Required Retesting

Students who have completed their required developmental sequence with grades of C or higher in a subject area but have not scored at or above the minimum score on a required retest may enroll in the appropriate college level course if they also enroll for the designated one-hour lab course in the subject area. When the student completes the college level course with a grade of “C” or higher, they will have satisfied the TSI requirement for the subject area.

Enrollment Restrictions/Prerequisites for Designated Courses

Courses may have prerequisites that students must satisfy before being eligible to enroll in those courses. Often those prerequisites include college readiness by the student having met the requirements of OC’s *Success Initiative Plan*. Students should refer to the official college catalog for information on prerequisites.

Retesting as an Option to Developmental Course Work

Students whose placement score is not passing in one or more of the skill areas have the option of retesting prior to the beginning of any semester. If students retest and earn a passing score in any skill area, they will have met *Success Initiative* requirements in that area and will be eligible to enroll in related college level coursework.

At any time that students are enrolled in a developmental course or sequence, they may attempt to satisfy developmental requirements by retesting. If scores on the retest are passing students have the following choices.

- Receive a grade of PA—credit for the course with a passing grade. No further attendance required.
- Take the grade that the student earned at the time the passing test score is presented. No further attendance will be required.
- Continue in the class with a grade to be assigned at the end of the semester.

If scores earned on retest are not passing, students must continue enrollment and work in the developmental course. If the end of semester grade is C or higher students may enroll for the appropriate course in their Success Initiative Plan the next semester.

Attendance Requirements

Regular attendance, along with out-of-class preparation, completion of assignments, and study are critical to student success in any class, and those same elements are even more critical for students who are working to bring their skills to a level of college readiness.

The Odessa College attendance policy requires that faculty members keep attendance records in all classes. That policy further states faculty “shall provide make-up classes, assignments, and/or examinations for excused student absences, which result from college-approved activities, or for such reasons determined excusable by departmental policy.” Students who miss class have the responsibility for material

covered during the time of absence and the responsibility to make contact with the instructor as soon as possible to arrange to make up any missed work.

The attendance standards below are provided as guidelines to determine when absences are considered excessive. Students who exceed this number of absences are in danger of not acquiring the necessary skills and of receiving an unsatisfactory grade in the course.

- MWF, meets one hour, three times a week 7 absences
- MW and TTh, meets one hour and twenty minutes,
Twice a week 5 absences
- A three hour class, meeting once a week 2 absences
- A one hour class, meeting once a week 2 absences
- Summer classes, meeting four days a week 4 absences

Dropping Developmental Classes

Students enrolled in developmental classes for compliance with Odessa College's *Success Initiative Plan* and state law are expected to remain active in those classes so long as they are active in other classes. Should circumstances arise that make it critical for students to drop a developmental class while they continue with other classes, they will be directed to the Vice President for Instruction or designee who will review the student's situation and either approve or deny the requested drop. If the drop is approved, the students will be directed to continue in the prescribed developmental sequence the next semester of enrollment.

Waiver of Developmental Course Requirements

Students enrolled for interim sessions or for summer school may elect to temporarily waive developmental requirements so long as the student does not enroll for a course or courses that require skills for areas in which the student has not met *Success Initiative* requirements.

When individual student circumstances warrant a temporary waiver, the Vice President for Instruction or designee may grant appropriate waivers to the college's policy of continuous enrollment in developmental course work. The individual approving the exception will document that exception on the student's developmental degree plan.

In cases where a student changes goals and pursues an approved Level 1 certificate, the student's developmental requirements will be waived as long as the student follows the certificate plan.