



## Transitional Education Plan

Effective Date: March 2017

Dr. Nancy KingSanders

Associate Vice President for Student Success

361-593-3290

[nancy.kingsanders@tamuk.edu](mailto:nancy.kingsanders@tamuk.edu)

# Table of Contents

Student Success Mission Statement.....	3
Transitional Education Plan.....	3
Texas Success Initiative (TSI) .....	3
Exemptions.....	3
Table 1-Exemptions.....	4
Placement .....	5
Table 2-Placement.....	6
Timely Completion of Transitional Education Course Work.....	6
Institutional Reporting.....	7
Placement of Students with Transfer Coursework .....	7
International Students.....	7
Advanced Placement .....	7
Score Reporting.....	7
Freshman College Level Course Restrictions and Prerequisites.....	8
Math.....	8
Writing.....	8
Reading.....	8
Programs and Services.....	9
Supplemental Instruction (SI).....	9
Definition.....	9
The SI Process .....	9
SI Facilitators.....	9

Pathways Academic Assistance Center.....	9
Academic Advising .....	9
Graduation Pathway Mentoring Program .....	9
Transitional Education Options .....	10
Non-Course Based Options (NCBOs).....	10
Integrated Reading and Writing (INRW) 0300 .....	10
MATH 0302-Developmental Algebra.....	10
Attendance Policy for Transitional Courses .....	10
Advisor Listing.....	12

## ***Student Success Mission Statement***

The Center for Student Success is committed to preparing students for academic success that leads to lifelong learning. Our faculty and staff create a positive climate for learning with an emphasis on individual responsibility and accountability. We will support students as they **transition** to higher education, **engage** in educational and co-curricular activities, and **learn** both in and out of the classroom.

## ***Transitional Education Plan***

To reflect the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Rules in implementing the “Texas Success Initiative,” the Center for Student Success presents a plan for Transitional Education that assists Texas A&M-Kingsville students to develop college-readiness skills in reading, math, and writing. Delivery of such transitional courses/programs will not result in credit toward completion of a degree.

## ***Texas Success Initiative (TSI)***

Students are required to complete TSI prior to enrolling into college-level courses, unless exempt. The TSI is required by Texas law to ensure that students enrolled in Texas public colleges possess the academic skills needed to perform effectively in college-level course work. TSI includes a testing component designed to provide diagnostic information about the reading, mathematics, and writing skills of each student. The only accepted test for TSI is the TSI Assessment.

## ***Exemptions***

Texas A&M University-Kingsville recognizes the following Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board exemptions from the following:

### **Texas Administrative Code**

<b><u>TITLE 19</u></b>	EDUCATION
<b><u>PART 1</u></b>	TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
<b><u>CHAPTER 4</u></b>	RULES APPLYING TO ALL PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN TEXAS
<b><u>SUBCHAPTER C</u></b>	TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE

### **Exemptions/Exceptions**

**RULE §4.54**

	STAAR End-of-Course (EOC)	11 <sup>th</sup> grade TAKS	ACT	SAT	SAT (on or after March 5, 2016)
<b>MATH Algebra II (STAAR)</b>	Level 2	2200 or above	19+	500+	530
<b>English III (STAAR) ELA (TAKS) English (ACT) Verbal (SAT) EBRW (SAT after 3/5/2016)</b>	Level 2	2200 or higher on ELA AND 3 or higher on essay	19 +	500+	480
			Composite score: 23	Combined verbal and math score: 1070	There is no combined score

**Table 1-Exemptions**

- 1 For a period of five (5) years from the date of testing, a student who is tested and performs at or above the following standards:
  - A) ACT: composite score of 23 with a minimum of 19 on the English test and/or the mathematics test shall be exempt for those corresponding sections;
  - B) Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT): a combined verbal and mathematics score of 1070 with a minimum of 500 on the verbal test and/or the mathematics test shall be exempt for those corresponding sections; or
  - C) SAT administered on or after March 5, 2016: a minimum score of 480 on the Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) test shall be exempt for both reading and writing sections of the TSI Assessment; a minimum score of 530 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI Assessment. There is no combined score.
    - a. Mixing or combining scores from the SAT administered prior to March 5, 2016 and the SAT administered on or after March 5, 2016 is not allowable.
- 2 For a period of five (5) years from the date of testing, a student who is tested and performs at or above the following standards that cannot be raised by institutions:
  - A) on the Eleventh grade exit-level Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) with a minimum scale score of 2200 on the math section and/or a minimum scale score of 2200 on the English Language Arts

section with a writing subsection score of at least 3, shall be exempt from the TSI Assessment required under this title for those corresponding sections; or

B) STAAR end-of-course (EOC) with a minimum score of Level 2 on the English III shall be exempt from the TSI Assessment required under this title for both reading and writing, and a minimum score of Level 2 on the Algebra II EOC shall be exempt from the TSI Assessment required under this title for the mathematics section.

- 3 A student who has graduated with an associate or baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education.
- 4 A student who transfers to an institution from a private or independent institution of higher education or an accredited out-of-state institution of higher education and who has satisfactorily completed college-level coursework as determined by the receiving institution.
- 5 A student who has previously attended any institution and has been determined to have met readiness standards by that institution.
- 6 A student who is enrolled in a certificate program of one year or less (Level-One certificates, 42 or fewer semester credit hours or the equivalent) at a public junior college, a public technical institute, or a public state college.
- 7 A student who is serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States, the Texas National Guard, or as a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States and has been serving for at least three years preceding enrollment.
- 8 A student who on or after August 1, 1990, was honorably discharged, retired, or released from active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States or the Texas National Guard or service as a member.
- 9 An institution may exempt a non-degree-seeking or non-certificate-seeking student.

To qualify for an exemption **prior** to registration, students must provide official test scores or evidence of active military service of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States.

## ***Placement***

All students who do not meet one of the exemption measures will be required to take an initial assessment of skills prior to or upon registration. The assessment tool will be the TSI Assessment.

Students will be advised and placed in an appropriate transitional education course or Non-Course Based Option (NCBO) to address weak skill areas according to the following measures.

**Table 2-Placement**

<b>TSI Assessment</b>	<b>College-Level</b>	<b>Transitional Education</b>	<b>Adult Basic Education</b>
<b>Math</b>	350	349-337	336
<b>Reading</b>	351	350-343	342
<b>Writing</b>	Essay score of 5; Essay score of 4 and multiple choice of 363	Essay under 5 and multiple choice of 362-351	350

The student's high school ranking, GPA, and TAKS/STAAR scores may be considered when placing students into the appropriate courses.

Students entering Texas A&M University-Kingsville will meet with an academic advisor. Based on the student's TSI assessment, the advisor will determine the transitional areas, if any, that will be addressed during any academic term. Students will be enrolled in the identified skill areas requiring developmental course work beginning with the first semester. Students in transitional courses will meet with an academic advisor each semester until remediation is complete.

## ***Timely Completion of Transitional Education Course Work***

Timely completion of required transitional education courses will improve the likelihood of student success. Therefore,

1. new freshmen at Texas A&M-Kingsville (defined as having completed 0-30 semester hours prior to their first full-time enrollment) must complete all transitional education requirements within their first 45 completed hours on our campus;
2. transfer students arriving at the sophomore level or above (defined as having completed 31 or more semester credit hours) must complete all transitional education requirements within their first 30 hours of enrollment on our campus.

Failure to achieve the freshmen or transfer student standard will result in the student being placed on scholastic probation, regardless of grade point average. At this point, the student will have one semester to achieve Texas Success Initiative (TSI) compliance.

Continued failure in achieving TSI compliance as described above will result in the student being placed on enforced withdrawal (or its equivalent), regardless of grade point average. The students may return to the university after completing required transitional education elsewhere or the student may request approval for readmission from the Associate Vice President for Student Success.

## ***Institutional Reporting***

TAMU-K will report annually to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) the test results of students in transitional education and the effectiveness of the University's developmental and advising programs. In accordance with TEC 51.403(e), TAMU-K will report at the end of each semester to the THECB the following information for undergraduate students: Social Security Number (SSN), semester credit hours (SCH), grade points earned, ethnicity, gender, date of birth, Texas Success Initiative (TSI) status, initial assessment instrument, score on initial assessment, type of transitional education received for each area (reading, mathematics, writing), grade in first related college-level course, and the results of any subsequent assessment.

## ***Placement of Students with Transfer Coursework***

Transfer students must demonstrate their ability to do college-level coursework. This can be accomplished by submitting a college transcript indicating grades of "D" or better in college-level courses, which demonstrate college readiness. Developmental courses completed require a "C" or better.

Students entering with the following courses with a "D" or better are TSI Complete for the corresponding subject.

<b>Math</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Writing</b>
MATH 1314/1316/1324/1325/1348	ENGL 1301	ENGL 1301/1302
	HIST 1301/1302	
	POLS 2301/2302	
	PSYC 2301	
	BIOL 1306	

## ***International Students***

International students may be placed into college-level courses on the results of the TSI Assessment.

## ***Advanced Placement***

First-semester freshman can earn English credit for the following courses:

ENGL 1301 – ACT => 26; SAT=> 630

ENGL 1302 – ACT => 27; SAT => 670

Students that score 28 or above on the ACT or 600 or above on the SAT on the math section of the respective exams can earn credit for MATH 1314, MATH 1316, MATH 1348 provided the student has satisfied certain requirements in high school. Students must provide an official high school transcript and contact the Admissions' Office to receive credit prior to registering for their first semester of college course work.

## ***Score Reporting***

Students are required to submit official documentation for TAKS, STAAR, high school transcript, ACT, SAT, and/or TSI Assessment. If students need to have their TSI scores pulled from another test site, there is a request form available at [www.tamuk.edu/tsi](http://www.tamuk.edu/tsi) listed under "How do I request a copy of my TSI scores?"



## **Freshman College Level Course Restrictions and Prerequisites**

Students whose placement scores in Math, Reading, and Writing do not indicate they are ready for college level course work are restricted from the following courses unless approved by the Associate Vice President for Student Success or the assigned delegate.

<b>Math</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>Reading</b>
<b>Chemistry</b> CHEM 1311/1111	<b>English</b> ENGL 1301	<b>English</b> ENGL 1301
<b>Mathematics</b> MATH 1314/MATH 1324 MATH 1334		<b>History</b> HIST 1301/1302/2321/2322
		<b>Political Science</b> POLS 2301/2302/2304
		<b>Biology</b> BIOL 1306 <b>BIOL 1106/1107</b>
		<b>Psychology</b> PSYC 2301

## ***Programs and Services***

The Center for Student Success provides a variety of programs to support/assist students as they transition through their academic careers.

### ***Supplemental Instruction (SI)***

#### ***Definition***

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is a series of weekly review sessions provided by SI Leaders. SI is provided for students enrolling in designated courses who want to enhance their understanding of course material and improve their grades.

#### ***The SI Process***

SI sessions provide students the opportunity to meet with other students to compare notes, discuss important concepts, develop strategies for studying the subject, and practice testing prior to taking instructor administered exams. At each session students are guided through these study exercises by trained SI Leaders.

#### ***SI Facilitators***

SI Leaders are current students who have successfully completed the course. The SI Leader attends all classes with the students assigned to their SI section. Thus, they hear the same lectures and read the same material as the students with whom they work during the SI session. The SI Leaders receive specialized training in how to help students develop appropriate study strategies to understand and comprehend the course material.

### ***Pathways Academic Assistance Center***

Tutoring services are provided free of charge for the students of Texas A&M University-Kingsville through the Pathways Academic Assistance Center located in Jemigan Library. Tutors are prepared to work with students needing help in mathematics, chemistry, biology, physics, and engineering.

### ***Academic Advising***

Academic advisors in the Center for Student Success specialize in freshman-level advising. They are available on a drop in basis, as well as, by scheduling an appointment. They are familiar with all the academic programs and services offered on our campus and can direct students as needed. After meeting with students to discuss their TSI status and any academic needs, which are indicated by the TSI assessment, students are enrolled into the appropriate courses.

### ***Graduation Pathway Mentoring Program***

The GPS Mentoring program is designed to support incoming freshmen in making a successful and enjoyable transition from high school to college by creating educational and supportive relationships designed to direct students to be successful in their first year of college. The GPS Mentors help ease the transition from high school to college by sharing skills and positive habits, guiding students to resources and opportunities on campus, and promoting positive decision making.

## ***Transitional Education Options***

Students who are not TSI exempt must enroll in a form of Transitional Education in order to build the needed foundation in writing, reading, and math.

### ***Non-Course Based Options (NCBOs)***

The non-course-based category of developmental education is multifaceted and includes a mix of instructor and technology-based interventions that can vary in length depending upon the needs of the student. The NCBOs are designed as a co-requisite. Students in NCBI are also in ENGL 1301; students in NCBM are also in MATH 1314 or MATH 1334. Attendance to the lab is MANDATORY. If a student is dropped from an NCBO for non-attendance, the student will also be dropped from the associated college-level course.

### ***Integrated Reading and Writing (INRW) 0300***

Integration of critical reading and academic writing skills. Course fulfills TSI requirements for reading and/or writing. INRW 0300 is designed as a co-requisite with ENGL 1301 and includes a learning community (same students and same instructor for both classes). Attendance to the INRW class is MANDATORY. If a student is dropped from INRW for non-attendance, the student will also be dropped from ENGL 1301. Credit/Non-credit.

### ***MATH 0302-Developmental Algebra***

The algebra skills necessary for success in college-level mathematics. Topics include real number operations, linear and quadratic equations, graphing linear and nonlinear equations and simplifying polynomial, rational and radical expressions. Course delivery mainly through mathematics learning software. Course does not count toward any degree. Placement is based on analysis of student ACT/SAT, TSI and/or placement test scores. Credit/Non-credit

### ***Attendance Policy for Transitional Courses***

To ensure success in any class, students must attend class regularly and consistently. In addition, they must complete all assigned work as outlined in the course syllabus.

If students know in advance that they will miss class for an excused absence, they must contact the instructor and make arrangements for missed work.

Excused absences may include **official** University activities, religious holy days, serious illness of the student, death in the immediate family (spouse, child, parent, grandparent, sibling, aunt, or uncle), and/or a verifiable seriously impairing accident involving the student. For every absence, the student must present an excuse in **WRITING** with appropriate **verifiable** documentation to the instructor at the time the student returns to class.

Students who arrive at class ten minutes after the scheduled time for the class to begin may be counted as absent. The instructor has the discretion to excuse such absences if, at the end of the class meeting, the students provide to the instructor satisfactory explanation for their lateness.

The Center for Student Success will track students and contact them to warn those students who are not attending required developmental classes/activities that they must comply with the requirements set forth in the institution's transitional education plan.

**Students will not be permitted to drop transitional courses.** Students in transitional education courses do not receive a grade of *Incomplete (I)*. Assigning students incomplete (I) or withdrawn passing (WP) grades is inconsistent with the intent of the developmental studies plan.

Students must earn a grade of CR (credit) to be successful in a transitional studies course. A student will be automatically placed back into transitional courses in which the student has received a grade of NC (no credit), the next semester that he/she registers at the University, unless the student has subsequently met the requirements of the Transitional Education Plan and/or Texas Success Initiative.

## Advisor Listing

<u>College</u>	<u>Professional Academic Advisor/Title</u>	<u>Advisees</u>	<u>Contact Number</u>	<u>Contact Email</u>	<u>Advisor Location</u>
Center for Student Success	<b>Veronica Salas</b> Director, Advising & Retention	BAAS PSA	361-593-4931	veronica.salas@tamuk.edu	Library 224
	<b>Jennifer Alaniz</b> Academic Advisor III	Academic Recovery	361-593-4310	jennifer.alaniz@tamuk.edu	Library 222
College of Arts and Sciences	<b>Carlos Alvarado</b> Academic Advisor I	Art, Communications, Criminal Justice, English, History, Political Science, Spanish	361-593-4402	carlos.alvarado2@tamuk.edu	Kleberg Hall 132
	<b>Alma Limas</b> Academic Advisor I	Psychology Sociology	361-593-2554	alma.limas@tamuk.edu	Library 210
	<b>Sonya Vasquez</b> Academic Advisor III	Criminology	361-593-2721	sonya.vasquez@tamuk.edu	Kleberg Hall 126
	<b>Suzanne Villarreal</b> Academic Advisor II	CSDO PSCKW	361-593-4031	suzanne.villarreal@tamuk.edu	Library 210
Pre-Health Sciences	<b>J. Eric Winterbottom</b> Pre-Health Sciences Coordinator	Pre-Medicine Pre-Dental	361-593-3797	james.winterbottom@tamuk.edu	Kleberg Hall 124
	<b>Alfonso Ramos</b> Academic Advisor II	Pre-Pharmacy Pre-Nursing Pre-Health Other Biology, Biomedical Science Chemistry, Geology	361-593-2358	alfonso.ramos@tamuk.edu	Kleberg Hall 124
Dick & Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Human Sciences	<b>Priscilla Guerra</b> Academic Advisor IV	All college majors 61+ Hours Music	361-593-4202	priscilla.guerra@tamuk.edu	Support Services Bldg. 118
	<b>Javier Mendoza</b> Academic Advisor III	All college majors 0-60 Hours All Transfers	361-593-3718	javier.mendoza2@tamuk.edu	Support Services Bldg. 111
Frank H. Dotterweich College of Engineering	<b>Tony Ramirez</b> Academic Advisor II	Architectural, Civil, Electrical, Environmental, Industrial Technology, Computer Science	361-593-3308	juan.ramirez@tamuk.edu	Engineering Complex 114H
	<b>Margaret Mary Hennessey</b> Academic Advisor III	Mechanical, Chemical, Natural Gas	361-593-3920	margaret.hennessey@tamuk.edu	Engineering Complex 114K
	<b>Sasha Diaz</b> Academic Advisor I	Alternate Pre-Engineering Physics, Math	361-593-2478	sasha.diaz@tamuk.edu	Engineering Complex 114F
College of Education and Human Performance	<b>Dr. Araceli Garza</b> Academic Advisor IV	Teacher & Bilingual Education	361-593-4366	araceli.garza@tamuk.edu	Rhode Hall 117
	<b>Ashley Ochoa</b> Academic Advisor II	Health & Kinesiology 0-60 Hours	361-593-4632	ashley.ochoa@tamuk.edu	SPEC 104
	<b>Breanne Flores-Contreras</b> Academic Advisor IV FIG Coordinator	Health & Kinesiology 61+ Hours All college athletes	361-593-3204	breanne.flores@tamuk.edu	SPEC 103
College of Business	<b>Jose Mendoza</b> Academic Advisor III	All college majors 0-60 Hours	361-593-3935	jose.mendozaII@tamuk.edu	Business Bldg. 112
	<b>Cynthia Longoria</b> Academic Advisor IV	All college majors 61+ Hours	361-593-3902	cynthia.longoria@tamuk.edu	Business Bldg. 112