

POLICY PROPOSAL
Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 1
NSHE Co-Requisite and College-Ready Gateway Policy
EFFECTIVE Fall 2021

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

Section 1. NSHE [~~Placement~~] Co-Requisite and College-Ready Gateway Policy

[~~The placement policies of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) are intended to ensure a foundation of knowledge and competencies that will assist students in successfully pursuing and attaining an academic degree. Students are strongly encouraged to prepare for the rigors of higher education prior to entering the NSHE.~~]

1. Pursuant to federal regulations, institutions may make ability-to-benefit determinations using federally approved tests and passing scores to receive federal student aid. The NSHE reserves the right to cancel the admission or registration of any individual whose attendance at a university or college, in the opinion of the appropriate administrative officer and the President, would not be mutually beneficial, as determined by the ability-to-benefit test, to that individual and the university or college.
2. Initial Placement of Students into English and Mathematics Courses.
 - a. ***Continuous Enrollment Requirement.*** *Upon initial enrollment all degree must be enrolled in a college-level or co-requisite gateway English and/or mathematics course or the equivalent for a certificate program (e.g. embedded curriculum) until the institutional core curriculum English and mathematics requirements are completed.*
 - b. ***Remediation Exceptions.*** *Except as otherwise provided, effective Fall 2021, traditional forms of remediation, including courses numbered below 100, shall not be offered independently at any NSHE institution.*
 - i. *Remedial courses (numbered below 100) may be offered to high school students in the form of college preparatory courses.*
 - ii. *Remedial courses (numbered below 100) may be offered when they serve as a mandatory co-requisite for a gateway course and are described as such in the institutional course catalog and in the NSHE common course numbering system.*
 - c. [~~Exemption from Remedial Instruction.~~] ***College-Ready Placement.*** Degree-seeking ***and certificate seeking*** students who meet or exceed the minimum English or mathematics scores on any one of the college readiness assessments [~~listed below~~] ***provided for herein*** must be placed into a college-level course in that subject and are exempt from being placed into any form of [~~remedial~~] ***co-requisite*** instruction in that subject provided that the student:
 - i. Was continuously enrolled in an English course and a mathematics course in his or her senior year of high school unless an exception is approved by an NSHE institution; and

- ii. Enrolls in an NSHE institution after high school in any term (summer/fall/winter/spring) during the academic year following high school graduation.

Institutions may use other factors including high school transcript^[7] **and** grade point average **to determine placement.** ~~[, or additional]~~ **Alternate testing (e.g., ALEKS) to determine the appropriate first college-level course may be utilized for higher placement or if the college readiness assessment provided for herein was not taken by the student within three years prior to the date of matriculation.** ~~[Institutions are not required to honor initial placement decisions pursuant to this subsection for students who fail to remain continuously enrolled in required mathematics and English courses until the core mathematics and English requirements are completed.]~~

<u>College Readiness Assessments – English Benchmarks</u>	
<u>Test Score</u>	<u>Minimum Score</u>
ACT English or ACT English Language Arts (ELA)	18 (English) or 20 (ELA)
SAT Critical Reading – SAT Test Date Prior to March 2016	500
SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing – SAT Test Date March 2016 and later	480
Smarter Balanced	2583 (Achievement Level 3)
PARCC	Level 4 Score

<u>College Readiness Assessments – Mathematics Benchmarks</u>	
<u>Test Score</u>	<u>Minimum Score</u>
ACT Mathematics	22
SAT Math – SAT Test Date Prior to March 2016	500
SAT Math – SAT Test Date March 2016 and later	530
Smarter Balanced	2628 (Achievement Level 3)
PARCC	Level 4 Score

- ~~[b.]~~ **d. Placement of Students *Who Do Not Meet College-Readiness Benchmark*** ~~[without an Exemption from Remedial Instruction].~~ For degree-seeking **and certificate seeking** students who have not met the English or mathematics college readiness assessment score on one of the tests in subsection [a] ***shall be placed and enrolled in a co-requisite course, not to exceed six credits. Credit and non-credit skills development curriculum may be provided as supplemental instruction for those students enrolled in a co-requisite gateway course only. An institution shall not require a student who has completed a co-requisite course to take a placement test for enrollment in a subsequent course.*** ~~[or who have not taken any of the tests in subsection a, institutions must develop an assessment and placement policy that ensures students who place at high school or above levels have an opportunity to enroll in and complete gateway college courses in mathematics and English within one academic year. The assessment and placement policy may use multiple measures, including, but not limited to placement exams; high school GPA; course selection and performance in the senior year of high school; and~~

intended postsecondary program of study to determine appropriate placement into one the following options:

- i. Placement into college-level courses without any additional academic support or remediation;
- ii. Placement into a co-requisite course where academic support is provided to students while enrolled in college-level gateway courses;
- iii. Placement into a single semester of remedial education that is followed by either a gateway college-level course or co-requisite gateway course option; or
- iv. For students who are seeking a STEM (science, technology, engineering or mathematics) degree or program of study that requires college algebra or pre-calculus and who place at the high school Algebra 1 level (e.g. Math095), placement into a three-semester sequence culminating in the gateway college algebra course. The sequence may include co-requisite coursework.

[e.] e. [Institutions may establish] ***Students with documented disabilities may be placed on alternative pathways to those described in subsection d upon the written recommendation of the disability resource center*** [b for those degree-seeking students whose mathematics or English skills are below the high school level as established by the institution's assessment and placement policy set forth in subsection b.]

3. To promote completion of gateway courses within the first academic year, all degree-seeking students must be continuously enrolled in appropriate mathematics and English courses until the institutional core curriculum mathematics and English requirements are completed. Institutions may authorize exceptions to this requirement if the exception does not affect the student's ability to complete the gateway course within the first academic year.]

[4.]3. [Requirements] ***Criteria*** for [college readiness and] ***placement into a college-level course with and without corequisite support*** [enrollment] shall be publicized by each institution to the appropriate Nevada school districts. In addition, the Chancellor will work with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction ***and the district superintendents*** to publicize these requirements to all Nevada school districts and to establish educational strategies to encourage high school standards, graduation requirements, and assessments that are aligned with college and workforce readiness expectations.

[5.]4. For purposes of this section, ***the terms stated here have the following meanings:***

- a. "[e]College-level ***course***" means courses that are numbered 100-level and above ***and fulfill gateway course requirements***[-];
- b. "***Co-requisite course***" means a college-level gateway course numbered 100-level and above where academic support is provided simultaneously in the same semester. ***Co-requisite courses do not include a.) course modules that are scheduled sequentially in the same term, including but not limited to accelerated courses; and b.) courses with curriculum taught over more than one semester, including but not limited to stretch courses.***
- c. "***Remedial course***" means a course that is below college-level and numbered below 100-level.

5. ***Periodically, the Chancellor's Office will audit institutions for compliance with these provisions and will report such finding to the Board.***