Assessing and Improving Students’ College Readiness

The Early Assessment Program (EAP) is a nationally recognized collaboration involving the California Department of Education (CDE), the California County Superintendents, the State Board of Education (SBE) and the California State University (CSU).

The EAP is administered in conjunction with the California Standards Test (CST) and includes a voluntary eleventh grade assessment that combines CSU placement standards with California’s high school content standards. Students take an EAP essay exam and 15 additional multiple-choice questions at the end of the Grade 11 California Standards Test (CST) in English/Language Arts. In mathematics, students taking the Algebra II or Summative High School Math CST take 15 additional multiple-choice questions. The EAP designation is determined by combining the results of the 15 items with approximately 75% of the CST items.

Purposes of EAP Early Assessment of Readiness for College

The goal of the Early Assessment of College Readiness or the EAP is to help California high school students become fully prepared for college-level study by the time they enroll on a CSU campus. The EAP is not used to determine admission decisions.

The Early Assessment Program:

- Provides students, families, and high schools an early signal regarding whether students are prepared for college-level work in English and mathematics
- Offers students the ability to earn an exemption from the CSU placement tests in English and/or mathematics before entering the CSU
- Motivates and encourages 12th grade students to take the needed steps for readiness in their senior year, and
- Helps schools provide opportunities for 12th grade students to achieve college readiness.
The Early Assessment Program (EAP)

What the EAP Offers Schools and Teachers

The CSU offers free professional development in math and English as well as an opportunity to adopt the Expository Reading and Writing course.

Math Professional Development: The Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee (CISC) of the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association (CCESA) in collaboration with the CSU work together to offer professional development for math teachers, offering a combination of online and one-day workshop experiences. Teachers may register for the no-cost professional development in math at: http://pd.csusuccess.org/.

English Professional Development: The CISC of CCESA, in collaboration with the CSU, offers four-day Expository Reading and Writing Workshops for English teachers. In addition, many CSU campuses offer 80-hour Reading Institutes for Academic Preparation (RIAP) fostering academic literacy across the curriculum. Teachers may register for the no-cost professional development in English at: www.calstate.edu/eap/englishcourse/index.shtml

Expository Reading and Writing Course: The CSU, in collaboration with outstanding California high school teachers and administrators, developed the 11th and 12th grade Expository Reading and Writing Course. It fulfills the English subject area (b) requirement of the “a-g” course requirements.

English teachers attain all the required preparation and materials for their school to offer this course by participating in the professional development programs.

EAP Student Reports

Students who participated in any part of the EAP in English or in mathematics will receive their EAP math and English results with their STAR report. A CSU box on the STAR report indicates how the individual student performed on the EAP.

Student status designations in math may be:

- Ready for CSU College-Level Mathematics Courses
- Ready for CSU College-Level Mathematics Courses - Conditional
- Not Yet Demonstrating Readiness for CSU College-Level Mathematics Courses
- Not Applicable
Student status designations in English may be:
- Ready for CSU College-Level English Courses
- Not Yet Demonstrating Readiness for CSU College-Level English Courses
- Not Applicable

**Students’ Online Access to Results**

If students release their designations to the CSU, they have the ability to access their results directly online. They may do so as soon as the results are available by visiting the website at: [http://www.csusuccess.org/star](http://www.csusuccess.org/star). Students who do not release their designations to the CSU or misplace their STAR report may request a duplicate EAP report at: [EAPDups@ets.org](mailto:EAPDups@ets.org).

**Online Access to School and District Results:** The CSU, in collaboration with the Educational Testing Service (ETS), has established an EAP results website that uses the same design as the California Department of Education STAR results website. It provides information by county, district, and school, and by subgroups of students. The website is located at: [http://calstate.edu/eap](http://calstate.edu/eap).

**EAP Supplemental High School Preparation**

The goal of the EAP is to use assessment results to promote student readiness for college. The CSU English Success website and the CSU Math Success website provide numerous online materials that promote English and math readiness, including the following:

- Checklists and guidance tips for parents in English and Spanish;
- Personalized roadmaps to college readiness with step-by-step advice;
- Information related to CSU English Placement Test (EPT) and Entry Level Math (ELM) test requirements;
- English and math resources for students, parents, counselors, and teachers;
• Tips and tools to help students improve their critical reading, writing, and math skills;
• Free multiple-choice practice EPT and ELM exams; students receive a score report with detailed feedback about their responses;
• Calibrated Peer Review (CPR), an online essay-writing and assessment tool for teachers to use in their classrooms;
• Interactive e-learning math programs; and
• Live online math tutoring.

The websites are found at: www.csuenglishsuccess.org and www.csumathssuccess.org

The CSU has developed an array of additional free resources to assist in preparing students for college readiness. These materials and learning tools for schools, teachers, students, and parents are available at www.calstate.edu/eap.
Campuses of the
California State University

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