

401 Golden Shore, 5th Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210

**CSU Legislative Reports Website**  
<https://www.calstate.edu/legislative-reports/>

**Steve Relyea**  
Executive Vice Chancellor  
and Chief Financial Officer

562-951-4600  
srelyea@calstate.edu

December 15, 2020

Nancy Skinner  
Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
State Capitol, Room 5094  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Gabriel Petek  
Legislative Analyst Office  
925 L Street, #1000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Keely Bosler, Director  
Department of Finance  
State Capitol, Room 1145  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Erika Contreras  
Secretary of the Senate  
State Capitol, Room 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cara L. Jenkins  
Legislative Counsel  
State Capitol, Room 3021  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Sue Parker  
Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 3196  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: California State University Report: Reading, Writing, and Mathematics Proficiency of All First-Time Freshmen**

Section 66015.12 of the California Education Code states that the California State University (CSU) shall submit a draft and final report to the Legislature each year that includes proficiency status and exam information for all first-time freshmen.

On August 2, 2017, Chancellor Timothy White issued Executive Order 1110 (enclosed) revising CSU policies related to placement of first-time students into English and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses beginning with the Fall 2018 entering class. The Executive Order retires the English Placement Test (EPT) and Entry-Level Mathematics (ELM) Test for determining course placement, and replaces stand-alone non-credit developmental education courses with new baccalaureate credit-bearing courses to provide more targeted instruction and academic support to students in these subject areas and facilitate progress towards degree completion. The EPT and ELM exams were not offered to Fall 2020 first-time freshmen entrants. All new Fall 2020

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**CSU Campuses**  
Bakersfield  
Channel Islands  
Chico  
Dominguez Hills  
East Bay

Fresno  
Fullerton  
Humboldt  
Long Beach  
Los Angeles  
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay  
Northridge  
Pomona  
Sacramento  
San Bernardino  
San Diego

San Francisco  
San José  
San Luis Obispo  
San Marcos  
Sonoma  
Stanislaus

**CSU Report: Reading, Writing, and Mathematics Proficiency**

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freshmen enrolled in baccalaureate Written Communication and Mathematics/  
Quantitative Reasoning courses (some in enhanced college-level, baccalaureate credit-bearing courses).

Due to this change in policy, California State University has no new data to report on the proficiency of first-time students for fall 2020 and in the future. Historical information for Fall 2017 and prior years can be found online at:

<http://asd.calstate.edu/performance/proficiency.shtml>

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Nichole Muñoz-Murillo, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations at (916) 445-5983.

Sincerely,

  
Steven Relyea (Dec 15, 2020 09:03 PST)

Steve Relyea  
Executive Vice Chancellor and  
Chief Financial Officer

SR:dr

Full report posted to <https://www.calstate.edu/legislativereports/>

- c: Lisa Qing, Senior Fiscal & Policy Analyst, Legislative Analyst Office  
Timothy P. White, Chancellor, California State University  
Loren J. Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs  
Garrett Ashley, Vice Chancellor, University Relations and Advancement  
Nichole Muñoz-Murillo, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State  
Relations  
Ryan Storm, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Budget  
Jeni Kitchell, Executive Budget Director  
Edward Sullivan, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Institutional Research and Analyses

# THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

## OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR



BAKERSFIELD

August 2, 2017

CHANNEL ISLANDS

CHICO

### **MEMORANDUM**

DOMINGUEZ HILLS

**TO:** CSU Presidents

EAST BAY

**FROM:** Timothy P. White  
Chancellor

FRESNO

FULLERTON

**SUBJECT:** Assessment of Academic Preparation and Placement in  
First-Year General Education Written Communication and  
Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning Courses  
Executive Order 1110

HUMBOLDT

LONG BEACH

LOS ANGELES

Attached is a copy of Executive Order 1110 relating to the assessment of academic preparation for and placement in written communication in English courses and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses. This executive order supersedes Executive Order 1048 and elements of Executive Order 665 and reflects significant guidance and feedback from the Academic Senate CSU, discipline faculty, students and our educational partners. The order provides for the broadest utilization of multiple measures in assessing academic readiness and determining course placement for first-year students. The Early Start Program is recast to allow students to focus on a single discipline and acquire necessary foundational content at the same time they earn baccalaureate credit. The executive order also supports faculty innovation in curriculum and facilitates equitable opportunity for first-year students to succeed through existing and redesigned education models.

MARITIME ACADEMY

MONTEREY BAY

NORTHRIDGE

POMONA

SACRAMENTO

SAN BERNARDINO

SAN DIEGO

The timeline for implementation begins in fall 2018 with the introduction of new baccalaureate credit-bearing courses that strengthen skills development to facilitate achieving the appropriate general education student learning outcomes. Recognizing the engagement necessary for developing or reshaping curriculum, the effective term for implementation of all changes to the Early Start Program shall be summer 2019; however, campuses may pilot innovative instructional approaches to the Early Start Program prior to summer 2019.

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN JOSÉ

SAN LUIS OBISPO

SAN MARCOS

In accordance with policy of the California State University, the campus president has the responsibility for implementing executive orders where applicable and for maintaining the campus repository and index for all executive orders.

SONOMA

STANISLAUS

CSU Presidents

August 2, 2017

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If you have questions regarding this executive order, please contact the office of Student Academic Services at [EVCASA-assists@calstate.edu](mailto:EVCASA-assists@calstate.edu) or (562) 951-4744.

TPW/ne

Attachment

- c: CSU Office of the Chancellor Leadership
  - Dr. Christine Miller, Chair, Academic Senate CSU
  - Provosts/Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs
  - Vice Presidents for Student Affairs
  - Associate Provosts/Associate Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs
  - Deans of Undergraduate Studies
  - Directors of Admissions and Records
  - Admissions Advisory Council

**THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Office of the Chancellor**  
**401 Golden Shore**  
**Long Beach, California 90802-4210**  
**(562) 951-4744**

**Executive Order:** 1110

**Effective Date:** August 2, 2017

**Supersedes:** Executive Order 1048 Effective June 2010  
In part Executive Order 665 Effective February 1997 (IA; IB; IIA; IIB)

**Title:** Assessment of Academic Preparation and Placement in First-Year  
General Education Written Communication and Mathematics/Quantitative  
Reasoning Courses

This executive order is issued pursuant to Section 40402.1 of Title 5 of the *California Code of Regulations*, and Section II (a) of the Standing Orders of the Board of Trustees of the California State University (CSU) REP 01-96-02 and REP 01-08-01. This executive order applies to all first-time freshmen who enter the CSU for fall 2018 matriculation and subsequent academic terms.

**I. Purpose**

This executive order establishes CSU policy regarding first-year enrollment in CSU-required written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses and college-level skills assessment to inform placement in appropriate courses.

**II. Delegation of Authority**

In accordance with CSU policy, the campus president is responsible for implementing executive orders where applicable and maintaining the campus repository and index for all executive orders.

**III. Guiding Principles**

- The CSU is committed to providing students an equitable opportunity to succeed academically at the university and to providing rigorous instruction in general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning.
- Rigorous high school preparatory experiences in general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning prepare prospective CSU students for academic success.
- Successful completion of general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses in the first year of CSU enrollment establish a foundation for continuous learning.

- Freshmen in need of additional academic development are supported in the Early Start Program and in enhanced college-level, baccalaureate credit-bearing courses.
- CSU faculty provide academic support by making curricular modifications to existing courses, by developing new courses, or by introducing innovative instructional approaches that achieve appropriately rigorous student-learning outcomes.
- General education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning requirements completed at one campus seamlessly transfer to other CSU campuses.

#### **IV. Skills Assessment and Course Placement Recommendations**

Freshman skills assessment and recommended placement for general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses shall be based on multiple measures of academic proficiency. Such measures may include high school English and mathematics/quantitative reasoning course grades, high school grade point averages, grades in collegiate courses, ACT scores, SAT scores, Advanced Placement scores, International Baccalaureate scores, SAT subject tests or Smarter Balanced Assessment/Early Assessment Program scores.

- A. The CSU shall establish systemwide placement standards.
- B. The CSU Admissions Advisory Council (AAC) comprised of CSU faculty, students and administrators shall be responsible for the review and recommendation of revisions to systemwide policies regarding:
  1. Assessment of college readiness for successful completion of general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses;
  2. Preparatory requirements for general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning course placement; and
  3. The Early Start Program.
- C. Each campus shall establish a student course-placement appeals process.
- D. Effective with this executive order, the English Placement Test (EPT) and the Entry-Level Mathematics (ELM) Test shall not be offered, and the EPT and ELM committees are discontinued.

#### **V. Enrollment in General Education Written Communication and Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning Courses**

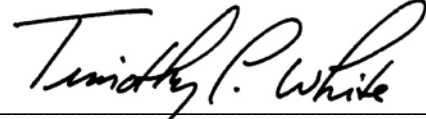
- A. During the first academic year, unless the requirement has been completed, freshmen shall enroll in general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses appropriate to each student's major and skill level, as demonstrated by applicable systemwide standards.

- B. Students whose skills assessments indicate academic support will be needed for successful completion of general education written communication or mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses shall enroll in appropriate college-level, baccalaureate credit-bearing courses that strengthen skills development to facilitate achieving the appropriate general education student learning outcomes. Supportive course models may include, among others, co-requisite approaches, supplemental instruction, or “stretch” formats that extend a course beyond one academic term. In these approaches, instructional content considered pre-baccalaureate may carry a maximum of one unit and shall be offered concurrently with a college-level, baccalaureate credit-bearing course.
- C. Campuses shall offer sufficient general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning course sections to meet student enrollment needs in their first academic year.

**VI. Early Start Program**

- A. The Early Start Program serves CSU admitted freshmen who have not demonstrated proficiency in English and/or mathematics/quantitative reasoning as established by CSU.
- B. For summer 2018, campuses may continue to offer Early Start Program courses as established under Executive Order 1048 and/or may offer pilot credit-bearing baccalaureate courses.
- C. Effective summer 2019, Early Start Programs shall offer primarily baccalaureate credit-bearing general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning courses, and those courses shall be offered in sufficient numbers to meet student demand. Instructional content considered pre-baccalaureate will carry a maximum of two units and shall be offered concurrently with a college-level, baccalaureate credit-bearing course.
- D. Early Start Program participation is required for students needing skills development, as determined by systemwide placement standards. Students needing skills development in both general education written communication and mathematics/quantitative reasoning shall be required to enroll in a written communication or mathematics/quantitative reasoning course but not both during the Early Start Program.
- E. Students required to participate in the Early Start Program may choose to participate at any CSU campus. CSU campuses may partner with California community colleges in the development and offering of Early Start Program courses. Baccalaureate credit earned and general education requirements completed through the Early Start Program shall seamlessly transfer to all CSU campuses.
- F. Campuses may grant student exceptions from required Early Start Program participation, based on extenuating circumstances.

- G. Early Start Program fees shall be determined by the Office of the Chancellor. Financial aid shall be available for qualifying students who are required to participate in the Early Start Program.

Handwritten signature of Timothy P. White in black ink.

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Timothy P. White, Chancellor

Dated: August 2, 2017