Texas Higher Education
COORDINATING BOARD
College Readiness and Success
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Presidents, Chancellors, Chief Academic/Informational Officers at Texas public Institutions of Higher Education

FROM: R. Jerel Booker, Assistant Commissioner, Division for College Readiness and Success

DATE: July 25, 2016

RE: Revised SAT Exemption – Approved

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved the college readiness benchmarks for the new SAT (administered March 5, 2016 and later) at its July 21, 2016 meeting. The revised rule for Texas Success Initiative (TSI) exemption purposes is as follows:

Texas Administrative Code, Rule 4.54(a)(1)(B) SAT:

> *(i) SAT administered prior to March 2016: a combined critical reading (formerly "verbal") and mathematics score of 1070 with a minimum of 500 on the critical reading test shall be exempt for both reading and writing sections of the TSI Assessment; a combined critical reading (formerly "verbal") and mathematics score of 1070 with a minimum of 500 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for the mathematics section of the TSI Assessment;*
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> *(ii) 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.*
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> *(iii) Mixing or combining scores from the SAT administered prior to March 2016 and the SAT administered on or after March 5, 2016 is not allowable.*

The newly-approved rule becomes effective on August 10, 2016 in order to allow institutions time to respond. However, an institution may determine that the immediate application of the approved rule is in the best interest of its students.