

Basic Skills requirements for postsecondary career certificate education – Firefighter I/II Career Certificate

Students enrolling in the Firefighter I/II Career Certificate program must complete an entry-level basic skills examination.

The assessment instruments and methods are designed to assess student mastery of basic communication (reading language arts) and computation (mathematics) skills.

Exemptions: The following students are exempt from the basic skills examination requirement with receipt of an official copy of the degree, transcript, or test scores.

- One who possesses a college degree at the associate in applied science level or higher.
- One who passes a state, national, or industry certification or licensure examination as a Paramedic
- A student who possesses a high school diploma from a private school that complies with s. 1002.42
- A student in a home education program or a personalized education program, with a signed affidavit submitted by the student's parent or legal guardian attesting that the student has completed a home education program under the requirements of s. 1002.41 or a personalized education program under the requirements of s. 1002.395.
- [One who demonstrates readiness for public postsecondary education according to Rule 6A-10.0315, F.A.C.](#)
 - Entered 9th grade in a Florida public school in the 2003–2004 school year, or any year thereafter, and earned a Florida standard high school diploma. (1008.30(4)(a) Florida Statute)
 - Demonstration of active–duty status in any branch of the United States Armed Services. (1008.30(4)(a) Florida Statute)
 - Successful completion of EAP 1500, EAP 1520, EAP 1540, and EAP 1560 with a “C” or higher.
 - Completion of two (2) courses in the areas of humanities, social sciences, or natural sciences with grades of "C" or higher. (Applies to Reading and Writing)
 - [Proof of college-level reading, writing, and math scores via a common placement.](#)
 - These scores are valid for two- years.
 - Evidence of previous placement in ENC1101 English Composition I or ENC1102 English Composition II and evidence of previous placement into a college-level math course.
 - Completion of an exit–level developmental course in reading, writing, and math with a grade of “C” or higher.

Students may complete any of the following methods to meet the basic skills examination requirements:

1. **Non-exempt students can take one of the [college placement methods](#) FSW offers.** (all students will have a maximum of three attempts). These scores are acceptable for two (2) years.
 - a. Accuplacer Next Generation – must score 256 or higher in Reading, 253 or higher in Writing, and 261 or higher in Quantitative Reasoning and Statistics.
 - b. Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT) – must score 106 or higher in Reading, 103 or higher in writing, and 114 or higher in Math.
2. **Students may also take one of these Basic Skill assessments,** however, they are not currently offered at FSW. These scores are valid indefinitely, however, will only apply to the Firefighter Career Certificate at FSW.
 - a. Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE), Forms 11 and 12, 2017 – must score 597 or higher in Reading, 608 or higher in Language Arts, and 627 or higher in Math.
 - b. Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS), GOALS 900 Series, 2019 for Reading and Math Goals 2. – must score 244 or higher in Reading and Language Arts and 230 or higher in Mathematics.

Notes:

- If you are requesting one of the exemptions related to demonstrating readiness for public postsecondary education according to Rule 6A-10.0315, F.A.C. you must have this exemption applied to your FSW student account. Please email fswtesting@fsw.edu if you have questions.
- TABE or CASAS scores must be emailed to Michael.Knoop@fsw.edu
- If you have a high school diploma from a private school or completed a home education program please email Michael.Knoop@fsw.edu
- Students who have been previously unsuccessful on the college placement test may have better results on the CASAS.
- The CASAS test is offered at [Fort Myers Technical College](#) for \$30. Please call 334-4544 between 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for additional information.