
Prescriptive Tests & Test Outs

Prescriptive Tests

This is an optional assessment that can be taken on certain courses before any coursework is completed. When a student demonstrates material competency, the course will then be modified and reduced based on the student's test score. In other words, if a student shows that they already know some material in a course, that material will be removed making courses smaller and quicker to finish.

Example: if a student receives 40% on the prescriptive test, 40% of the course material is already mastered and that 40% of the course will be automatically removed. The prescriptive test can only be taken once at the beginning of the course and it must be assigned by an advisor. Students can start the modified course as soon as the test is complete. Students should contact their advisor with questions or to request a prescriptive test at the beginning of their next course.

Test Outs

Another tool available to Smart Schools students is the test out option. This is intended to give students the opportunity to show proficiency in designated content areas. If a student earns a qualifying score on an assessment for the subject area, Smart Schools will grant a student credit for a course and the student will not be required to actually take the course. Students meeting the minimum proficiency requirements of a test-out option will have a grade of "P" recorded for that course or will earn the grade achieved on the Test Out exam.

Students attempting to Test Out of a course must either take the exam at a designated Smart Schools facility or with our online proctoring agency. The Test Out exam can only be attempted once for each course; a maximum of 16 successful course test outs are allowed. The student is not obligated to accept the test out grade and may elect to complete the course to seek a higher grade. If the student does not accept their test out grade, it will not count against the 16 allowed test outs. Please talk to your Academic Advisor if you are interested in attempting to test out of a course.

This test is much harder than the PT & in order to get the credit students must receive a 60% or higher. If a student scores lower than 60% on the TO, they will be required to take the full class. Students should not attempt this test unless they are highly knowledgeable in the subject. Students should contact their academic advisor with any questions.