

### **Ability to Benefit (ATB) at Central Texas College (CTC)**

To be eligible for federal financial aid, the U.S. Department of Education requires that an individual must earn a high school diploma or recognized equivalent. A new to college student without a high school diploma or recognized equivalent and is beyond the state’s compulsory attendance age may qualify for financial aid by passing an approved Ability to Benefit (ATB) test and meeting all other financial aid eligibility requirements.

### **ATB Tests at CTC and Passing Scores**

Central Texas College currently administers the ASSET, an approved ATB test, and will be transitioning to the ACCUPLACER. To be eligible to apply for federal financial aid, individual must meet minimum passing scores and meet all other financial aid eligibility requirements.

<b>ASSET (Paper-based)</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>ACCUPLACER (Computer-based)</b>	<b>Score</b>
Reading Skills	35	Reading Comprehension	55
Numerical Skills	33	Arithmetic	34
Writing Skills	35	Sentence Skills	60

### **ATB Test Requirements**

- Only ATB test scores administered by CTC are accepted. Test scores are valid for one year.
- All components of the ATB test must be taken in one test session.
- Applicants must wait 30 days to retake the ATB. Retests require all components to be retaken and fee repaid.
- Applicants must wait 90 days to retake the ATB a third time and must provide written evidence that tutoring or some form of instructional intervention has occurred that would suggest improvement.
- Applicants may take a maximum of 3 attempts in one 12-month period.

Individuals are highly encouraged to complete high school or obtain their GED rather than rely on ATB tests.

Individuals with documented disabilities are eligible for testing accommodations.

### **Procedures**

The Director of Admissions and Recruitment or designee will determine if an applicant has the required high school diploma or recognized equivalent; e.g. GED certificate. If the individual is 18 years or older and does not have a high school diploma or recognized equivalent, the individual may be admitted on an individual basis if the individual can demonstrate the ability to benefit from instruction. Individuals who are admitted to CTC on an “individual basis” must still meet the Department of Education’s Ability to Benefit score requirements to be eligible for federal financial aid.

**Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Special Note:** Depending on your degree objective, you may be required to take additional tests to meet the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements. Contact CTC’s TSI Coordinator for more information.

### **Resources**

[ASSET Student Guide](#)

[Free ASSET Study Guide](#)

[Free ACCUPLACER Study Guide](#)

[Free ACCUPLACER Online Practice Sample Questions](#)