



Technical Skills Attainment (TSA) Update 2015

**Wisconsin Technical College System
Division of Teaching and Learning
Office of Occupational and Academic Excellence**

TSA-Guiding Principles

- the System has been assessing students for over 100 years
- TSA formalizes the assessment process and creates a shared assessment mechanism
 - **external assessment**
 - third party assessment (i.e. NCLEX)
 - **internal assessment**
 - assessment created within the WTCS (scoring guide)

TSA - Overview

- assessment that **objectively measures** a student's attainment of industry-recognized skills
- originated in the 2006 Carl Perkins Act
- adopted by the System as a best practice
- utilized for Outcomes-Based funding (OBF)

TSA-Outcomes-Based Funding

Criteria #3

Industry-Validated Curriculum

- All WTCS programs have industry input
- Funds distributed on each colleges' share of the following:
 - Active degree programs: Weighted 75%
 - Programs with Technical Skill Attainment (TSA): Weighted 25%

Value of technical colleges: 96% of employers say their local technical college is important to the overall success of their businesses.



TSA Two-Phased Approach

Phase One: Planning

Colleges, WIDS & WTCS collaborate to:

- Identify **type of assessment** – WTCS or third party assessment
- identify **core program outcomes** and **critical criteria** as indicated in the TSA Scoring Guide
- submitted and reviewed by System Office
- colleges notified of **approval or the need for revisions**
- once approved, colleges are invited to **complete Phase II**

TSA Two-Phased Approach

Phase Two: Implementation

- each college decides **how to implement** – summative assess., portfolio, etc.
- each college **completes and submits** Phase II documents to System Office
- documents are **reviewed, revised and/or approved** by the System Office
- approved Phase II Plans **are posted WTCS Repository**
- each colleges **implements their own** Phase II plan
- each college **starts reporting** when their Phase II is approved

TSA - Overview

➤ Who needs to do it?

- programs with aid code 10, 30, 31, 32 and 50 which includes embedded technical diplomas
- pathways certificates not included
- new programs – consult your education director

TSA - Overview

➤ What needs to be done?

➤ **Internal (WTCS) Assessment**

- develop program outcomes and critical criteria vetted by industry, advisory committees and college staff
- create standardized TSA scoring guide (phase I)

➤ **Third Party Assessment**

- utilize industry-validated assessment

TSA - Overview

- **When** does it need to be done?
 - **WTCS facilitates the TSA process**
 - developing plan for completion of projects
 - **WIDS facilitates the completion of TSA projects**
 - providing support for unique programs (phase I)
 - providing regional support for completion of phase II

TSA-Phase II Transition

- Client Reporting **starts after the date of the WTCS Phase II Approval Letter**
- **May 31st is the deadline** for a TSA Phase II submission to the System Office if a district wishes to report for that fiscal year

TSA Reporting

TSA Reporting

- colleges **develop a management system** for collecting/reporting data
- colleges **collect TSA data** on all students
- colleges **start reporting** in the academic year Phase II approved
- colleges **submits TSA data** via Client Reporting System (CRS)

TSA Reporting

- colleges are required to begin reporting TSA completion data upon approval of Phase II TSA
- reporting is required on all students
- reporting is done on an individual basis
- reporting is either 1, 2 or 9
 - **1 – assessed/passed**
 - **2 – assessed/failed**
 - **9 – not assessed**

TSA Reporting

- current program students that are not assessed **are reported as a “9 – not assessed”**
- **reporting a “9 – not assessed” is OK**, for current students
- **subsequent program cohort** will start the reporting eligibility period (1 – assessed & passed/2 – assessed & failed)
- **communication with your college’s** data collection and reporting staff is crucial to success

TSA-Current Status

2015-2016 WTCS Goals...

- increase number of programs (with students enrolled) with TSA Phase II approval
 - remember – this is the count for OBF measurement
- encourage local completion of TSA for unique programs
- continue completion of TSA Phase I projects as indicated
 - new WIDS-facilitated projects to be determined
- develop review process of currently-completed TSA's

TSA Updates

- **TSA information is found on our website –**
 - <http://mywtcs.wtcsystem.edu/occupational-academic-excellence/occupational-and-academic-resources/technical-skills-attainment>
- **TSA forms/related information**
 - **3rd party TSA Decision Form dated 09-03-15 is current**
 - **TSA Request Forms Phase I and II dated 10-07-15 are current**

Technical Skill Attainment

Resources...

Technical Skills Attainment (TSA) Web Page

<http://mywtcs.wtcsystem.edu/occupational-academic-excellence/occupational-and-academic-resources/technical-skills-attainment>

WTCS Portal

<https://apps.wtcsystem.edu/wtcs-web/>

WTCS Repository

<https://wtcsystem.wids.org/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fdefault.aspx>

Technical Skill Attainment

Questions?

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