

When do I take the Regents' Test?

The Regents Test is given only once per semester. Augusta State University students must meet the following requirements to take the Regents' Test:

All students are required to complete this exam when they begin their first semester here at Augusta State University.

Students will be notified by the Registrar when it is time for them to take the test. It is the student's responsibility to make sure the correct mailing address is on file.

If a student misses their allotted time they must go to the Registrar's Office.

Students will not be allowed to register for classes the following semester if they do not take the test during their assigned time.

Other Frequently Asked Questions

What if I'm not enrolled this semester?
If a student is not enrolled but needs to take the test, it is the student's responsibility to call the Testing and Disability Office approximately 2 weeks before the test date. You will not receive notification.

If I don't pass a section can I take it again?
A student may take the test as many times as it is offered before they reach the 45 credit hour limit. After 45 hours Regents' Reading/Writing Skills courses must be taken. Students only have to re-take sections they do not pass.

When will I receive scores? Approximately 6-8 weeks after your test date you will receive your scores by mail. If you do not receive your scores, you can go the Registrar's Office with a valid ID to view them.

Testing and Disability Service Staff

Angie S. Kitchens, M.S.
Director

C. Conrad Smith
Testing Coordinator

Felicia E. James
Administrative Secretary

Our staff is on hand to assist with any questions you might have about the exam.

If you have any questions regarding requirements for taking Regents' please contact the Registrar's Office at 706-737-1408.

Location

Testing and Disability Services is located in the Quadrangle between Fanning Hall (Business Office) and Benet Hall (Admission) and Payne Hall (Financial Aid & Registrar's Office).



For more information go to:
<http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwr>



Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia



The Regents' Writing and Reading Skills Test

Testing and Disability Services
2500 Walton Way
Augusta Georgia
30904
Tel. 706-737-1469
Fax. 706-729-2298

Overview of the Regents' Writing and Reading Skills Requirement

By a policy statement issued in 1972, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia instituted the requirement that each institution of the University System of Georgia ensure that students obtaining a degree possess certain minimum skills of reading and writing. These skills are referred to as the Regents' Writing and Reading Skills.

There are two System-mandated courses in writing and in reading that are designed to meet the Regents' Writing and Reading Skills requirement.

Students enrolled in undergraduate degree programs leading to the baccalaureate degree must pass the Regents' Reading Skills and Regents' Writing Skills courses as a requirement for graduation. Students may exempt these courses through examination by passing the Regents' Reading Test and the Regents' Essay Test or an approved alternative test in reading comprehension and in writing.

Students who have earned 45 credit hours and have not passed or exempted the courses must take the Regents' Skills courses during each subsequent semester of enrollment. Students enrolled in a Regents' Skills course must pass the corresponding Regents' Test in order to receive a passing grade for the course.



Reading and Essay Test Information

The Reading Test

The Reading Test, which has an administration time of one hour, is a 54-item, multiple-choice test that consists of nine reading passages and five to eight questions about each passage.

The passages usually range from 175 to 325 words in length. Topics are drawn from a variety of subject areas (social science, mathematics and natural science, and humanities), and entail various modes of discourse (exposition, narration, and argumentation).

The questions that accompany the passages of the Reading Test have been designed to assess four major aspects of reading:

Vocabulary

Literal Comprehension

Inferential Comprehension

Analysis

A sample form of the Regents' Reading Test, which provides examples of the types of passages and items comprising the test, is available on the Regents' Testing Program website:
<http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwrtp/instrdg.htm>

Scoring the Reading Test Students' responses to the items on the Reading Test are recorded on machine-readable answer sheets so that these responses can be read and scored by computer. A standard score is used to describe the Reading Test performance of each examinee. This score is derived by translating the student's total raw (number-right) score on the test to a Rasch score scale with a range from 0 to 99.

The minimum passing score on this scale is 61.

The Essay Test

Students who take the Essay Test have one hour in which to write on one of four topics that are given. A list of the topics that are used has been provided to all institutions in the System.

A list can also be viewed at the Regents' Testing Program website:
<http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwrtp/topics.htm>

Scoring the Essay Test Each essay is graded independently by three raters who use a holistic procedure to assign ratings to the essay. Because each essay is identified only by the student's identification number, the essay raters do not know the identity or the institution of the students whose papers are graded. Raters are from other USG schools.

Raters use a three-point scale. A "3" on the scale indicates superior performance, a "2" satisfactory performance, and a "1" substandard or failing performance.

The final score assigned to an essay is usually the rating on which at least two out of three raters agree. When there is no agreement among the raters, the final score is the middle rating of the three assigned to the essay. One consequence of this scoring procedure is that no essay can receive a failing grade unless at least two of three raters have given it a failing grade.

As indicated in the Policy, a student may request formal review of a failing essay if there is one passing score among the three grades the essay was assigned. The review is initiated on the student's campus. If the student's campus level appeal is sustained, the essay is sent to the Regents' Testing Program Office to be rescored by a System-wide review panel.

Two scores of at least "2" (satisfactory) must be received to pass the essay portion.