

College Basic Academic Subjects Examination

The College Basic Academic Subjects Examination (CBASE, College Base) is a criterion-referenced 180-item, academic achievement examination. It evaluates knowledge and skill proficiency in English, mathematics.

This examination is administered twice to students during their tenure at Jackson State University. It is administered first during their initial orientation session prior to their enrollment at the university and secondly after they have completed courses in the general core i.e. English 104/111, 105/112, 205; mathematics 111 or equivalent; history 101, 102; biology 101/111 or equivalent; psychology 201/111, and an additional social science.

For diagnostic purposes, the Subject Scores are divided into levels that become increasingly more specific: from 4 subjects, to 9 clusters to 23 skills. Subject scores, and the associated cluster scores are reported on a scale ranging from 40-560, with an average being 300. Skill scores are reported as High, Medium, and Low.

According to CBASE, in order to determine an institution's relative strengths and weaknesses of its general education program, a comparison can be made using the composite, subject, and cluster score. In such comparison, a difference of 17 points represents a meaningful difference.

Academic Year	Average Composite Score		English		Math	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
2010	223	234	218	*237	227	231
2011	223	233	223	233	218	232
2012	226	239	223	230	228	*247
2013	225	240	219	*238	230	241
2014	224	*245	214	*246	233	243
2015	232	232	233	228	230	236
2016	228	256	221	*253	234	*258
2017	221		215		227	
2018	218		212		224	

* Score difference on the pre and posttest of 17 points or higher indicates a meaningful impact. Composite score is the average of the subject scores for JSU reporting purposes.

The 2017 Posttest was not administered due to COVID-19 and 2018 post test is scheduled to be administered spring 2021.