

# Redefining Ready!

## College and Career Readiness for Life Beyond High School

Students are more than just the number they earn on a standardized test. Our nation's high schools strive to provide students with rigorous academic programs, personalized and career-specific learning experiences and social and emotional skills that prepare them to be global citizens in an ever-changing world. The scores on standardized tests are one of many potential indicators that demonstrate readiness for life beyond high school.

We are educating a generation of innovators – students who are driven by ideas and inspired by innovations. Students leave high school with the academic skills that make them college and career ready, but they also leave with grit and perseverance to tackle and achieve their goals. They have the growth mindset that empowers them to approach their future with confidence, to dream big and to achieve big. Our students learn in a variety of ways. They should be able to demonstrate readiness in a variety of ways. We must look beyond standardized test scores and use multiple measures to assess and demonstrate that our students are ready to succeed in life beyond high school.



### College Ready Indicators

Students are **College Ready** if they meet either the academic indicators **OR** standardized testing benchmarks listed below.

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#### Academic Indicators

GPA 2.8 out of 4.0 and **one or more** of the following academic indicators:

- Advanced Placement Exam (3+)
  - Advanced Placement Course (A, B or C)
  - Dual Credit College English and/or Math (A, B or C)
  - College Developmental/Remedial English and/or Math (A, B or C)
  - Algebra II (A, B or C)
  - International Baccalaureate Exam (4+)
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#### Standardized Testing Benchmarks (minimum score)

- SAT Exam: Math (530) | Reading and Writing (480)
  - ACT Exam: English (18) | Reading (22) | Science (23) | Math (22)
  - College Readiness Placement Assessment  
(determined by post-secondary institution)
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#### Additional Factors that Contribute to College Success

Earning As, Bs, Cs; FAFSA completion; enrollment in career pathway course sequence; college academic advising; participation in college bound bridge programs; senior year math class; completion of a math class after Algebra II.

### Career Ready Indicators

Students are **Career Ready** if they have identified a career interest and meet two of the behavioral and experiential benchmarks listed below. In addition, students entering the military upon graduation must meet the passing scores on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) for each branch of the military.

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Career Cluster Identified and **two or more** of the following benchmarks:

- 90% Attendance
  - 25 hours of Community Service
  - Workplace Learning Experience
  - Industry Credential
  - Dual Credit Career Pathway Course
  - Two or more organized Co-Curricular Activities
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# Endorse Redefining Ready!

## What's It All About?

America's high schools have a profound responsibility to ensure that our nation's 14 million high school students are **college ready, career ready and life ready**.

Learning should be more personalized and assessments should inform instruction to help students deepen their learning. Students are often being prepared for an industrialized world that no longer exists.

## Our Students are More than a Score.

Standardized test scores – traditionally used as the primary readiness indicator – do not always provide an accurate representation of our students' potential.

That's why AASA, The School Superintendents Association, and its Executive Director, Dan Domenech, are launching "Redefining Ready!" to propose new research-based metrics and indicators to more authentically and appropriately assess and demonstrate high school graduates' readiness to thrive in their futures.

## Endorse Redefining Ready!

Help us champion the Redefining Ready! initiative. Together we must support our high school graduates' ability to demonstrate readiness to colleges, employers, their family, and the world in which we live. Let's end this "one-score fits all" approach that is proving stifling and unfair to many of our students.

Visit [www.RedefiningReady.org](http://www.RedefiningReady.org) to join the conversation and endorse an initiative focused on ensuring our high school graduates are **college ready, career ready and life ready**.

For more information, contact Patrick Mogge at 847-718-7690 or email [RedefiningReady@aasa.org](mailto:RedefiningReady@aasa.org).

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*"Like the global economy, today's students are driven by ideas and innovations. They should not be reduced down to, or defined by, a single test score."*

— David R. Schuler, Ph.D. President, AASA and Superintendent, High School District 214

ENDORSED BY

