

# **HESI Admission Assessment Exam FAQ**

## **1. WHAT IS THE HESI ADMISSION ASSESSMENT (A2) EXAM**

The HESI A<sup>2</sup> exam is designed to assess the academic and personal readiness of prospective students for higher education. It is particularly well suited for prospective students in the health science fields, though it is applicable for basic skills for all potential students. The A<sup>2</sup> consists of nine different exams, seven of which focus on academic subject areas and two on personal assessment. Individual component scores as well as composite scores are provided for the total number of academic exams that are administered. These academically oriented subjects include: Basic Math, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and General Knowledge, Grammar, Chemistry, Biology, and Anatomy and Physiology. The Learning Style and Personality Profile exams are available for the purpose of offering insights about student study habits, learning preferences, and dispositions as they relate to academic achievement. Schools of nursing decide which A2 components will be required for their own applicants to complete. These requirements as well as minimum cut scores also decided by faculty who are guided by research and data. These requirements can change from one year to the next and from school to school, so be sure to carefully read your program's requirements.

Many schools of nursing also include HESI's Critical Thinking exam as an additional requirement of the entrance exam.

## **2. WHAT ARE THE REQUIRED BENCHMARKS FOR ENTRY AT UTRGV SCHOOL OF NURSING?**

Per UTRGV admission policy, applicants to the nursing program must achieve a 75% or higher on the required individual components of the HESI Admission Assessment Exam. These components consist of: English Language, Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, Math, Anatomy & Physiology, and Critical Thinking.

## **3. WHAT SHOULD I DO TO PREPARE FOR THE HESI ADMISSION ASSESMENT?**

Students can prepare for HESI using the HESI Admission Assessment Exam Review Manual. The Review Manual contains a 25-question pre-test at the beginning of the text which helps you assess your areas of strength and weakness before using the text. Applicants also can practice on a 50-question comprehensive post –test is included at the back of the text and covers all of the subject areas included on the exam. The questions will also include rationales for correct/incorrect answers. There is also an Evolve companion site with two comprehensive practice exams to further assist your review and preparation for the HESI Admission Assessment Exam. Applicants may purchase this manual either from UTRGV book store or direct online by following this link:

<https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/product/9780323353786?role=student&dmnum=92790>

#### **4. CAN I RE-TAKE THE HESI A2 IF I DO NOT ACHIEVE THE REQUIRED 75% ON ONE OR MORE COMPONENTS?**

Yes, applicants may retest on Version 2 of the HESI Admission Assessment Exam for any components where a 75% was not achieved.

#### **5. AM I TAKING THE SAME TEST ON MY SECOND ATTEMPT?**

No, applicants choosing to retest will be testing on an alternate version of the HESI A2. Same content but different test items.

#### **6. DO I TAKE THE ENTIRE A2 EXAM OVER WHEN RETESTING OR CAN I TAKE JUST THE COMPONENT WHERE A 75% IS NEEDED?**

Applicants choosing to retest only have to test on the sections where a 75% was not achieved.

**Be advised** that the Admission Assessment Exam cannot be split into individual parts, so the exam is delivered with all components in-tact and the cost remains the same regardless of how many components you are testing on.

## **7. HOW MANY TIMES CAN I RETEST?**

HESI policy requires a wait period of three weeks before students are allowed to retest. UTRGV SON applicants are allowed two attempts at the HESI exam during an academic year (September 1-August 31).

## **8. HOW SOON CAN I RETEST IF I AM BELOW 75% ON ANY SECTION?**

Applicants may schedule a second attempt after three weeks from your original test date. Use your time between attempts to complete meaningful remediation by targeting your knowledge gaps. Make use of the online content provided on Evolve by reviewing missed content and completing the online item banks.

## **9. CAN I RETEST TO IMPROVE MY SCORE?**

Yes, since the A2 is a weighted percentage of the admission criteria, some students choose to retest even when the 75% minimum is met. Retesting in these cases is not required but could improve your chances of admission.

## **10. HOW SOON CAN I RETEST IF I JUST WANT TO IMPROVE MY SCORE?**

Applicants may schedule a second attempt after three weeks from your original test date. Use your time between attempts to complete meaningful remediation by targeting your knowledge gaps. Make use of the online content provided on Evolve by reviewing missed content and completing the online item banks.

## **11. HOW LONG ARE HESI A2 SCORES GOOD?**

Per UTRGV admission policy, HESI A2 scores are valid for one year from the date of testing.

## **12. IF I TOOK THE HESI A2 EXAM TO GET INTO ANOTHER SCHOOL A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO, CAN I SUBMIT THIS SCORE?**

No. A2 scores are only accepted within one calendar year of the date of the test.

### 13. CAN I TEST AT A LOCATION OTHER THAN UTRGV TESTING?

Yes, however, remote proctoring sites like Prometric are more expensive. The UTRGV testing center is the best value for testing.

### 14. WHAT KIND OF REMEDIATION IS AVAILABLE?

Access content relevant to your missed test items on the HESI A2 through your HESI Student Access link on Evolve. Follow the steps below:

#### Exam History

1. Log into Evolve using your Username and Password. In the “Content List” of your “My Evolve” Page, select HESI Assessment.
2. Under My Exams > Exam History > HESI Exams, select the “View Results” link to access Detailed Scoring Reports and remediation Review Materials.”

evolve

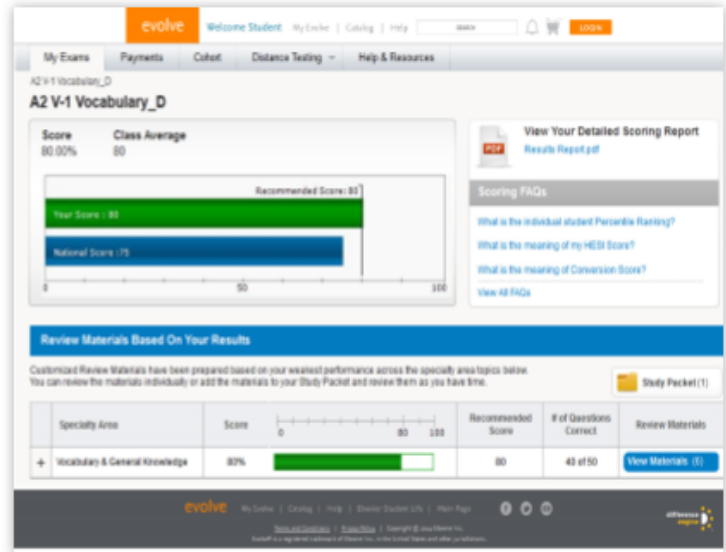
Exam Name	Date	Score	Remediation	View Results
Admission Assessment Report	March 01, 2013	77.42%		
A2 v1 Math_D Version: 1.0.0.0	March 01, 2013	70.00%	Remed(2)	View Results
A2 v1 Read Comprehension_D Version: 1.0.0.0	March 01, 2013	64.00%	Remed(3)	View Results
A2 v1 Grammar_D Version: 1.0.0.0	March 01, 2013	80.00%	Remed(3)	View Results
A2 v1 Vocabulary_D Version: 1.0.0.0	March 01, 2013	80.00%	Remed(1)	View Results
Critical Thinking_D Version: 1.0.0.0	March 01, 2013		Remed(1)	View Results
A2 v1 Chemistry_D Version: 1.0.0.0	March 01, 2013	80.00%	Remed(2)	View Results
A2 v1 Biology_D Version: 1.0.0.0	March 01, 2013	80.00%	Remed(2)	View Results
A2 v1 Anatomy & Physiology_D Version: 1.0.0.0	March 01, 2013	66.00%	Remed(1)	View Results
Stevenson College Pre-Exit Exam_D Version: 1.0.0.0	February 08, 2013	304.00	Remed(20)	View Results

#### ► Remediation Navigation Tips!

The View Results link will quickly take you to your Detailed Scoring Reports and remediation Review Materials for each exam.

## Remediation

3. The selected exam summary screen shows the **Score** and **Class Average**, provides a link to **“View Your Detailed Scoring Report”**, and includes a summary view of **HESI Scores**, **Recommended Scores**, **# of Questions Correct**, and links to **View Materials** by Specialty Area.



► **Remediation Navigation Tips!**

Want additional information on how to interpret your HESI exam scores and what it means to you? Click on the Score FAQs links to find out!

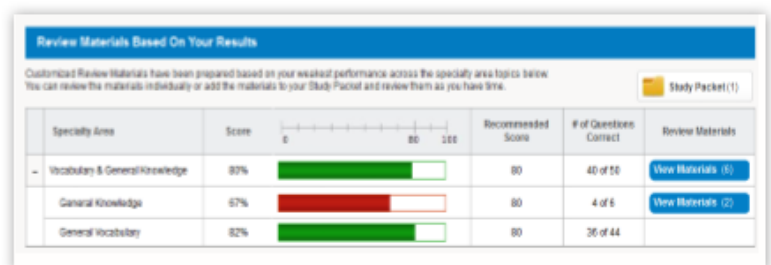
You can also print your Scoring Report. Just click on the Results Report link.

► **Remediation Navigation Tips!**

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You can also print your Scoring Report. Just click on the Results Report link.

4. Select **“View Materials”** under the **Review Materials** column. A new screen will appear.



## Remediation

5. Select a link under **Content** to view remediation material.

► **Progress Tip!**

You can track what material you've already looked at in the "Viewed" and "Not Viewed" sections.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Content	Content Type	Specialty Area	Score	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Precise Words and Specific Details</b> Quick Book Review From Stein-Ingohr: Access Writing 1st ed.	Book Text	Vocabulary & General Knowledge	80 %	Viewed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Using Specific and Fresh Language</b> Quick Book Review From Stein-Ingohr: Access Writing 1st ed.	Book Text	Vocabulary & General Knowledge	80 %	Not Viewed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Precise Words and Specific Details</b> Quick Book Review From Stein-Ingohr: Access Writing 1st ed.	Book Text	Vocabulary & General Knowledge + General Knowledge	87 %	Viewed

► **Remediation Navigation Tips!**

Your customized review materials include content review for items you missed on the exam. Use your remediation content to be sure you're better prepared next time!

6. You can select "Add to Study Packet" if you would like to develop a packet of material for further study.

**Precise Words and Specific Details**

Quick Book Review From Stein-Ingohr: Access Writing 1st ed.  
Chapter 6: Expository Writing, pg. 134

**Precise Words and Specific Details**

Precise words and specific details help the reader understand an explanation. As you learned in Unit 1, Lesson 2, being precise and specific helps you create word pictures so the reader can "see" what you mean.

**EXAMPLE** Read the two explanations for grilling fish. The second one has precise words and specific details; the first one does not.

1. Here's a way to cook fish on a grill. First, buy a piece of wood at the store. Clean the piece. Then soak it to prevent it from burning. Next, preheat the coals in your grill. Put the fish on the plank and shove hands on the grill. When the coals are hot, place the plank on the grill with the coals around the edges. Cook for 15 to 20 minutes.
2. Here's a healthy, fat-free way of cooking fish that you can use on your barbecue—grilling fish on a wood plank. First, buy a cedar or fir plank at a lumberyard or home supply store. The plank should be cut to 1" by 6" by 18". Second, soak the plank with water to season it. Then soak the plank in water for one hour to prevent it from burning on the grill. Next, preheat the coals in your grill. Place the fish on the plank and sprinkle the top of it with fresh herbs. When the coals are hot, place the plank on the grill so that the fish is in the center with the coals around the edges. Cook over a medium fire for 15 to 20 minutes or until the fish is cooked throughout. Then enjoy!

Notice how the precise words (cedar or fir lumberyard or home supply store, sprinkle) and specific details (1" by 6" by 18", for one hour, medium fire) in the second explanation help you understand much better what to do.

**PRACTICE**

Rewrite each sentence using precise words and specific details.

1. You can relax at night by listening to music and by taking a bath.
2. You can protect yourself from crime by being careful and getting in shape.
3. I can make my lifestyle healthier by watching what I eat and exercising.

## Remediation

7. Use your personalized **Study Packet** to store any documents you'd like to save or print for further review.

The screenshot displays the 'Study Packet' interface on the 'evolve' platform. The page title is 'A2 V-1 Vocabulary\_D'. Below the title, there is a section for filtering materials with dropdown menus for 'Specialty', 'Sub Specialty', 'Content Type', and 'Status'. A 'Remove from Study Packet' button is visible on the left, and an 'Apply Filter' button is on the right. The main content area is titled 'Review Materials (2)' and contains a table with the following data:

<input type="checkbox"/> Remove from Study Packet	Content	Content Type	Specialty Area	Score	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Precise Words and Specific Details</a> Quick Book Review From: Steen-Heughe: Access Writing, 1st ed	Best Test	Vocabulary & General Knowledge - General Knowledge	67%	Viewed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Using Specific and Fresh Language</a> Quick Book Review From: Steen-Heughe: Access Writing, 1st ed	Best Test	Vocabulary & General Knowledge - General Knowledge	67%	Viewed

At the bottom of the table, there is another 'Remove from Study Packet' button. The footer of the page includes the 'evolve' logo and navigation links for 'My Exams', 'Payments', 'Chart', 'Distance Testing', and 'Help & Resources'.

### ► Remediation Navigation Tips!

You can add and remove content from your Study Packet at any time with just one click – it's up to you. And it's printable, too!