

**AB 705 (Irwin) - Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012 Assessment  
Chapter 75, Statutes of 2017**

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**The text of this bill can be read in full [here](#). The Legislature provided a number of findings and declarations to guide system and college implementation of this new law. Included in the findings and declarations, the Legislature noted:**

**Assessment instruments and placement policies have serious implications for equity, since students of color are more likely to be placed into remedial courses, and students placed into remediation are much less likely to reach their educational goals.**

**Evidence suggests that community colleges are placing too many students into remediation and that many more students would complete transfer requirements in math and English if allowed to bypass remedial prerequisite courses and enroll directly in transfer level English and math courses.**

**The goal of AB 705 is to ensure that students are not placed into remedial courses that may delay or deter their educational progress unless evidence suggests they are highly unlikely to succeed in the college level course.**

**Community colleges are prohibited from requiring students to take a prerequisite course unless they are highly unlikely to succeed in a higher level course without it, pursuant to Section 55008 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, but this policy is not followed in practice.**

**Colleges are required to use multiple measures in determining course placement, pursuant to Section 5522 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, but Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations does not provide enough guidance in the use of multiple measures to ensure that students are not excluded from courses in which they can be successful.**

**Evidence suggests that when used as the primary criterion for placement, assessment tests tend to under-place students, and a student's high school performance is a much stronger predictor of success in transfer level courses than standardized placement tests.**

**AB 705 authorizes the CCC Board of Governors to establish regulations governing the use of high school performance and other measures, instruments, and placement models to ensure college implementation meets the goals of this legislation.**



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