

Description of SmarterMeasure

The SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator, is a web-based assessment which measures a learner's readiness for succeeding in an online and/or technology rich learning program based on non-cognitive indicators of success. SmarterMeasure indicates the degree to which an individual student possesses attributes, skills and knowledge that contribute to success in learning. All seven components of SmarterMeasure are grounded in theoretical research and practice. The seven components of SmarterMeasure are:

- Individual Attributes - motivation, procrastination, willingness to ask for help, etc.
- Life Factors - Availability of time, support from family and employers, finances, etc.
- Learning styles - Based on the multiple intelligences model
- Technical Competency - Skills with using technology
- Technical Knowledge - Knowledge of technology terms
- On-screen Reading Rate and Recall
- Typing Speed and Accuracy

Assessment Scales and Sub-scales

The SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator is composed of multiple scales with each section measuring multiple sub-scales. Schools have the ability to opt-out of administering any scale to their students. Schools may also re-order the sequence through which the scales are delivered to the students. The assessment does not have to be completed at one sitting, but can be offered in disaggregate mode and/or the student may stop and restart the assessment as needed.

Section/Scale	Sub-scales	
Life Factors	Availability of time to study Availability of a dedicated place to study Reason for continuing one's education Support resources from family, friends and employers Perception of academic skills	2
Individual Attributes	Version One - 24 items Procrastination Time management Persistence Willingness to ask for help Academic attributes	

Section/Scale	Sub-scales	
	Locus of control VERSION Two - 25 items with expanded reporting Self-management Learning Skills Organization Health Commitment	
Learning Styles	Identifies the degree to which they possess each of the following learning styles: Visual Verbal Social Solitary Physical Aural Logical	2
Reading Skills	Reading Rate On-screen reading recall	1
Technical Knowledge	Technology usage Technology in your life Technology vocabulary Personal computer/Internet specifications	2
Technical Competency	Computer competency Internet competency	1
Typing Skills	Typing rate	1

Section/Scale	Sub-scales	
	Typing accuracy	
OPTIONAL COGNITIVE SECTIONS		
Math Readiness	Numbers Algebra Geometry Modeling Technology	3
Writing Readiness	Writing apprehension Grammar, usage and style Structure of academic writing	3
NOTE: There are multiple questions on the assessment to measure each of the sub-scales.		

Overview of Assessment Sections

Personal Information

The opening screen of SmarterMeasure collects demographic information such as name, email address, age range, gender and the number of online courses the person has taken. In addition to these standard demographic variables, schools can add custom variables to the opening screen. Schools may opt-out of asking these demographic variables.

Individual Attributes

The individual attributes section of SmarterMeasure measures traits, habits and attitudes that impact one's readiness for learning. There are two versions of this scale available.

Version One is the original individual attributes section and measures attributes categorized by these six sub-scales: time management, procrastination, persistence, academic attributes, locus of control, and willingness to ask for help. There are 24 items in this section with each of the six attributes being measured by four items. The items are measured on a four-point likert-type scale of not like me at all, not much like me, somewhat like me, or very much like me.

Version Two became available in 2014 and measures attributes categorized by these five sub-scales: self-management, learning skills, organization, health and commitment. There are 25 items in this section. The reporting for this version is expanded in that question level data is presented across all

reporting so that students and educators can see the input across all 25 items. The items are measured on a four-point likert-type scale of very much like me, somewhat like me, not much like me, and not like me at all. In addition to the likert-type scale there are three optional sections in which students can report which of the 25 items they consider their three strengths and opportunities for improvement, they can rate themselves on a 0 to 10 strength to opportunity for improvement scale, they can respond to related essay questions, and/or they can report which student services they are interested in receiving.

Life Factors

The life factors section of SmarterMeasure quantifies variables in five areas: time, place, reason, resources, and skills. Many students strongly desire to continue their education. However, often other situations in life deter them from being able to do so. The Life Factors section asks questions about other elements in their life that may impact their ability to continue their education. Students may be able to modify circumstances which impact some of these life skills. If so, they are encouraged to take appropriate action to help themselves succeed. But some of the circumstances in life may be beyond their control. If this is the case, just being aware of these realities and planning accordingly may be beneficial for the students. There are 20 items in this section with each of the five factors being measured by four items. The items are mostly measured on a five-point likert-type scale.

Learning Styles

The learning styles section of SmarterMeasure identifies the preferred learning style(s) of the student. The learning styles inventory is based on the multiple intelligences model which measures the following seven learning styles: visual, verbal, social, solitary, physical, logical, and aural. Schools have the option of selecting a 35 or 21 item instrument for this section.

On-screen Reading Rate and Recall

The on-screen reading rate and recall section of SmarterMeasure consists of passages which are selected by the institution based on the appropriate Flesh-Kincaid Grade Level for the participants. The section begins with an instruction screen which informs the student that they are about to read a passage and then be quizzed on their recall of the passage. Participants are notified that they will not be able to view the passage during the assessment and that their reading is being timed. The on-screen reading rate and recall assessment contains eleven items which are each measured by a multiple-choice item containing three choices.

SmarterMeasure contains multiple reading passages at grade levels 8 through 12. Recall of these passages is measured by ten items which based on the following five categories of comprehension: sequencing, factual information, inferential information, cloze process and the main idea of the passage.

Technical Competency

The technical competency section of SmarterMeasure measures the degree to which the participant possesses basic instructional technology skills. In this section students demonstrate mastery of the technology skills through ten technology related tasks. The tasks are identifying a properly formatted email address, following a link on a web page, opening a file, identifying an appropriate software application for a specific task, downloading and listening to an audio file, working within a file structure, identifying an email attachment, saving a file, printing a file, and using a search engine. Mastery of the tasks are indicated through ten multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank questions.

Technical Knowledge

The technical knowledge section of SmarterMeasure measures the degree to which the participant possesses knowledge of items related to instructional technology. In this section there are seven technology usage items which measure the degree to which the participant uses specified instructional technologies. This item is measured through multiple choice items containing four choices. The technology in your life section contains two items through which the participant indicates the level at which they integrate technology into other areas of their life. This section is measured through a dropdown menu of numerical choices which indicate the appropriate frequency of the technology integration. The technology vocabulary section contains ten items which are measured by four-choice multiple choice questions. The personal computer / Internet specification section contains four items and allows the student to report facts about the primary computer and Internet connection which they will be using to participate in their courses.

Typing Speed and Accuracy

The typing speed and accuracy section of SmarterMeasure is a skills test through which the student demonstrates their typing skills. Participants are first allowed to select the orientation of the sample passage to be typed in relation to the typing input window. Students then type the text. The score report visually presents their errors and typing rate.

Score Report and Guide to Interpretation

Three categories of reporting are provided.

1. **Student Report.** Immediately upon completion of SmarterMeasure students are provided a score report and a guide to interpreting the scores. Scores for each of the scales and sub-scales measured by SmarterMeasure are presented through color-coded graphics and explanatory text. Students are provided their composite scores through a color-coded chart ranking their performance on a four-point scale of opportunity for improvement through strength. The student's individual SmarterMeasure scores can be compared to the national averages through a color-coded scatter plot. SmarterMeasure scores are presented through visually appealing graphics resembling speedometers, radars, and dart boards. Explanatory text is provided for each item scored in SmarterMeasure. The report concludes with over thirty links to additional resources for remediation and support. Schools may also customize the resources for remediation section by adding their own resources if applicable.
2. **Educator Report.** The Educator Report is designed to present relevant, individual student information to educators such as advisors, guidance counselors, success coaches, faculty members, and other administrators. The Educator Report provides an executive summary of the student's scores and the educator can click from the Educator Report to the full Student Report.

The Educator Report contains three sections: **Readiness Ranges, Grit Grid and Readiness Resources.**

The Readiness Ranges section indicates the student's placement into low, medium or high levels of readiness. The cut points for determining these classifications can be adjusted by the school for each assessment group.

The Grit Grid section graphically presents the student's quantitative results on each of the sub-scales measured. The Grid allows the educator to graphically view the student's strengths and opportunities for improvement. A definition of each of the constructs measured is provided within the Grid.

The Readiness Resources section provides a link to a recommended, free, web-based resource for the three items on which the student scored the lowest.

The Educator Report is designed to equip an educator with the most relevant information about the student's scores to facilitate a conversation with the student about their readiness to learn.

3. **Administrative Reports.** Persons with appropriate levels of access to SmarterMeasure data can log into the Administrative Panel and generate individual and aggregate reports. These reports include individual student reports, data at-a-glance for a group of students, descriptive and demographic analytics across a population of students, and aggregate readiness ranges. Through the Administrative Panel data at the sub-scale level can be exported into an Excel or delimited data file for additional statistical analysis.

Custom User Interface

The SmarterMeasure assessment is provided to students through a custom user interface which is based on the visual identify of the student's school. You can view our [client list](#) to view the interfaces of some of our clients.



Gauge Your Readiness

Take the SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator for only \$29.95. Inquire about our volume discounts to schools.

[Learn More & Purchase](#)



1. 7 Day Countdown Begins - New WebsiteSeptember 19, 2013
 2. 2013 Student Readiness Report is Released!September 12, 2013
 3. We Will Never ForgetSeptember 11, 2013
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Featured Case Study



Ashford University

Implemented SmarterMeasure in the Student Success Orientation course and then studied correlations with engagement and course completion.

[View Case Study](#)

Upcoming Webinar



SmarterMeasure Admin Training

Tuesday, June 23

2:00 PM

[Register Now!](#)

[View all upcoming webinars](#)