

9-3 GUIDELINE FOR CHOOSING A THIRD PARTY TECHNICAL SKILLS ASSESSMENT (TSA)

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>
Does the assessment assist student in gaining employment?		
Is the assessment required for entry into employment?		
Do standards/competencies reflect a comprehensive job analysis of occupation <u>OR</u> align with program outcomes?		
Is the assessment based on a set of professional competencies and/or credentialing standards?		
Is the cost of the assessment reasonable for the student?		
Can the assessment be taken prior to graduation or without work experience?		
Can work experience and performance assessment be completed within three (3) months of graduation?		
<i>Test Administration and Security</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>
Does the assessment administrator maintain appropriate security?		
Are there appropriate accommodations for individuals with disabilities?		
Is the performance assessment component evaluated by an independent content expert?		
<i>Technical Analysis</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>
Are the tasks weighted properly and congruent with purpose of assessment?		
Is the assessment's reading level appropriate for the intended occupation?		
Is the assessment current and/or is there a schedule of test revision?		
Is there a performance component to the assessment (PAT)?		
Is there a criteria <u>OR</u> norm-referenced benchmark available?		
Is there validity and reliability information available on the assessment?		
<i>Scoring</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>
Is there a scoring guide for each performance assessment task (PAT)?		
Are students given feedback on their written and performance assessment knowledge?		
Are assessment scores available to students to view within various occupational tasks?		
<i>Reporting</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>
Does third party assessor provide an individual student assessment report to the technical college or system?		
<i>Score Totals</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>NO</i>
Sum the number of "Yes" and "No" responses		

Scoring Analysis

0 to 8 in "yes" responses - not a good measure of technical skills-use extreme caution.

9 to 15 in "yes" responses - could be a good measure of technical skills-use caution.

16 to 20 in "yes" responses - probably a good measure of technical skills

Third party assessment is recommended regardless of scoring total.

Colleges may not use a third party assessment. Colleges should use a WTCS assessment