



SY 22-23 Grade 7 Reading Instruments Guidance and Instructions for Submitting a Waiver

September 2022

TEC, §28.006(c-1) requires each school district to administer at the beginning of the seventh grade a reading instrument adopted by the commissioner to each student whose performance on the grade 6 STAAR reading assessment did not demonstrate reading proficiency. The admission, review, and dismissal committee or the Section 504 committee for each student who was administered an alternate form of the state assessment in reading may determine if the diagnostic assessment is appropriate for use with that student.

The commissioner has adopted the following instruments:

- Istation's Indicators of Progress, Advanced Reading (ISIP-AR)
- MindPlay Universal Screener (formerly known as Reading Analysis and Prescription System or RAPS 360)
- Texas Middle School Fluency Assessment (TMFSA)
- Woodcock Johnson III Diagnostic Reading Battery (WJ III DRB)

Waiver Guidance

LEAs are required to use one of these reading diagnostic instruments. However, in the 2022-2023 school year only, districts may request a waiver in order to use another instrument approved by a local district board of trustees in order to best meet student needs. Follow the instructions below to complete a grade 7 reading diagnostic instrument waiver request:

1. Please visit TEA's State Waivers webpage to access general information about the waiver process: <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/waivers/state-waivers>
2. Please also review Waiver Process FAQ for information on how to access TEAL for the purposes of submitting a waiver request: <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/Waiver%20Process%20FAQ.pdf>
3. Once in the TEAL waiver application, under the "Create New Waiver" tab, select the waiver type "**Other Waiver**" to create and submit a request for **waiver to use an alternate 7th grade reading instrument**.
4. Please complete the LEA contact information, including filling in the date the board approved the waiver request.
5. For the section titled "Waiver Description" please use this language:
"Waiver to use alternate 7th grade reading instrument."
6. For "General Questions #1," please use this language: **"Waiver to use alternate 7th grade reading instrument."**

7. For “General Questions #2,” please enter **N/A**.
8. For “General Question #3,” please use this language: “**TEC 28.006(c-1)**.”
9. For “General Question #4,” please enter **N/A**.
10. For “General Question #5,” please enter **N/A**.
11. For “General Question #6,” please enter **N/A**.
12. For “Requested Years,” please select only “**2022-2023**.”
13. For “LEA Attachments,” please include the board agenda from meeting in which the waiver application request was approved.
14. Please submit your completed waiver. For a *District Editor*, at the end of the waiver application you will find a **Complete & Route** button. This will route the application to your Superintendent for review and approval. For a *District Superintendent*, at the end of the waiver application you will find a **Review and Submit** button. This will take you to a review and submit details page. If the application is complete and ready for submission, select the **Submit to TEA** button.

The alternate grade 7 reading instrument waiver must be submitted by **December 30, 2022**.