

*2016–2017*

# Interpreting Assessment Reports

TEXAS STUDENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM



State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®)

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness  
End-of-Course (STAAR EOC)

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness  
Alternate 2 (STAAR Alternate 2)

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)

Questions concerning this guide should be directed to  
Texas Education Agency's Student Assessment Division at 512-463-9536.

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# General Information

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This guide provides information about interpreting the results of the Texas Student Assessment Program, which includes:

- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®)
- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness End-of-Course (STAAR EOC)
- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness Alternate 2 (STAAR Alternate 2)
- Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)
- Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)

Examples of standard and optional assessment reports are also included to assist campus personnel in understanding and interpreting student performance data, as required by Section 39.030(b) of the Texas Education Code.

Links to websites and resources in this guide are indicated by blue text.

## Overview of Statewide Student Assessment in Texas

### STAAR

Implemented in 2012, STAAR includes annual assessments for:

- reading and mathematics, grades 3–8
- writing at grades 4 and 7
- science at grades 5 and 8
- social studies at grade 8
- end-of-course (EOC) assessments for English I, English II, Algebra I, biology, and U.S. history

STAAR English III and Algebra II will be available in spring 2017 for districts to administer as optional assessments.

### STAAR with Embedded Supports

Administered for the last time in December 2016, the STAAR L assessment was an online linguistically accommodated version available for English language learners (ELLs) who met participation requirements, and the STAAR A assessment was an online accommodated version offered to eligible students with disabilities. Beginning with the spring 2017 administration, the embedded supports (i.e., text-to-speech, language and vocabulary supports, and content supports) that were available on STAAR L and STAAR A are now available on STAAR assessments for eligible students as individual embedded online accommodations. Paper administrations with embedded supports are also available for eligible students requiring a paper administration of STAAR.

## STAAR Spanish

Spanish versions of STAAR, called STAAR Spanish, are available at grades 3–5 for eligible English language learners (ELLs) in the same grades and subject areas assessed by the English versions. ELLs not eligible for STAAR Spanish may be provided allowable linguistic accommodations on other STAAR assessments.

## STAAR Alternate 2

STAAR Alternate 2 was developed to meet the federal requirements mandated under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), a federal education law previously known as No Child Left Behind. It assesses students in grades 3–8 and high school who have significant cognitive disabilities, and are receiving special education services.

## TELPAS

TELPAS fulfills federal requirements for assessing the English language proficiency of ELLs in kindergarten through grade 12. TELPAS assesses second language development in the domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Multiple-choice assessments are used to assess reading in grades 2–12. For the other grades and domains, holistically rated assessments based on ongoing classroom observations and written student work are used. TELPAS reports student performance in terms of four English language proficiency levels: beginning, intermediate, advanced, and advanced high. The TELPAS results are used in several state and federal accountability and performance-based monitoring indicators.

## TAKS

Students who were first enrolled in grade 9 prior to the 2011–2012 school year have TAKS as their graduation requirement. Students with TAKS as their graduation requirement are eligible to take the TAKS exit level assessments as soon as they are classified as 11th graders.



For more information about the Texas state assessments, visit [TEA's Student Assessment Division website](#).

2017 STAAR Assessments			
Enrolled Grade	Subjects Assessed	Assessment Mode	Other Assessments Available
Grade 3	mathematics and reading	paper and/or online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Spanish STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 4	mathematics, reading, and writing	paper and/or online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Spanish STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 5	mathematics, reading, and science	paper and/or online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Spanish STAAR Alternate
Grade 6	mathematics and reading	paper and/or online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 7	mathematics, reading, and writing	paper and/or online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 8	mathematics, reading, science, and social studies	paper and/or online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Alternate 2
End-of-Course	Only for courses in which a student is enrolled: Algebra I, Algebra II, English I, English II, English III, biology, and U.S. history.	paper and/or online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) for Algebra I, English I, English II, biology, and U.S. history STAAR Alternate 2 for Algebra I, English I, English II, biology, and U.S. history

TELPAS Assessments for the 2016–2017 School Year													
Enrolled Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>Multiple-Choice Assessments</b>			Reading										
<b>Holistically Rated Components</b>	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Writing										

## Graduation and Promotion Requirements

In addition to taking the required courses, students must pass STAAR EOC assessments in Algebra I, English I, English II, biology, and U.S. history. In 2015, Senate Bill (SB) 149 revised the state’s assessment graduation requirements for students who are classified in grade 11 or 12 during the 2014-15, 2015-16, or 2016-17 school years. A student meeting the requirements under SB 149 who has failed the EOC assessment graduation requirements for no more than two courses may receive a Texas high school diploma if the student has qualified to graduate by means of an individual graduation committee.

# Confidentiality and Reporting of Results

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Section 39.030(b) of the Texas Education Code specifies the requirements for maintaining the confidentiality of individual student results and for reporting district-level and campus-level results. The results of individual student performance on academic skills assessment instruments administered under this subchapter are confidential and may be released only in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g). However, overall student performance data must be aggregated by ethnicity, sex, grade level, subject area, district, and campus and made available to the public, with appropriate interpretations, at regularly scheduled meetings of the board of trustees of each school district. The information may not contain the names of individual students or teachers.

Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code, §101.81 requires school districts and charter schools to report results as follows:

- (a) The superintendent of a school district or chief administrative officer of each charter school shall accurately report all test results as required by the Texas Education Code (TEC), §39.030, with appropriate interpretations, to the school district board of trustees according to the schedule in the applicable test administration materials.
- (b) A school district, charter school, or private school that administers criterion-referenced tests under the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall notify each of its students and his or her parent or guardian of test results, observing confidentiality requirements in the TEC, §39.030.
- (c) All test results shall be included in each student's academic achievement record and shall be furnished for each student transferring to another school district, charter school, or private school.
- (d) The scoring contractor will provide school districts with the results of the machine-scorable assessments administered as required by the TEC, §28.0211, within a ten-day period following the receipt of the test materials from the school district or charter school.

Dates for notifying students and parents of assessment results for each administration are contained in the Calendar of Events Poster and the Calendar of Events in the [2017 District and Campus Coordinator Manual](#). The calendar and manual are provided to each district prior to the first administration.

# RESOURCES

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The Student Assessment Division makes many resources available to school districts and parents. The following is a list of resource pages on [TEA's Student Assessment Division website](#) that are useful for understanding the assessment process and reporting elements.

Resources	
Resource	Link
Accommodation Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/accommodations/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/accommodations/</a>
Explanation of Test Results	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/explainresults/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/explainresults/</a>
Information on State Assessments for English Language Learners	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/</a>
LPAC Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/lpac/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/lpac/</a>
Special Education Assessments	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/special-ed/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/special-ed/</a>
STAAR Alternate 2 Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/special-ed/staaralt/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/special-ed/staaralt/</a>
STAAR Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/</a>
TAKS Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/taks/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/taks/</a>
TELPAS Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/telpas/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/telpas/</a>