

January 2016
Process for Streamlining of Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)

Step	Activity
1	Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff notifies public of review process, including deadline for applications to serve on TEKS streamlining committees, via listservs and presentations.
2	State Board of Education (SBOE) members make SBOE TEKS streamlining committee nominations to include educators, parents, business and industry leaders, and employers. [TEC §28.002(c)] The role of committees is to aid the SBOE in meeting their statutory requirements.
3	TEA notifies SBOE members of the placement of nominees on a TEKS streamlining committee and notifies TEKS streamlining committee members of their appointment. There will be representation from all board members who submit nominations by the agreed upon deadline.
4	TEA creates a survey for the SBOE's review and input and then collects information via survey from educators regarding student expectations that are essential at each given grade level, student expectations that may not be essential at each grade level, and any other information that would be relevant to the streamlining of the subject area TEKS.
5	<p>The SBOE provides the charge to the TEKS streamlining committees based on survey feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to begin by determining an estimate of the amount of time necessary for students to develop mastery of the content in the current standards; - to only delete or reduce the scope of the student expectations; - not to add content or student expectations; - not to move content or student expectations from one grade level or course to another; - to look for student expectations that are duplicated in another course or grade level and eliminate unnecessary duplication; - to use the current TEKS as the foundation document; - to consider the general course of study, not what might be covered in an Advanced Placement course; - to consider and maintain appropriate College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS); - to ensure recommendations are in compliance with all related statutes; - to provide justification for all suggested recommendations; - to track all revisions to show what has been deleted or simplified; - to ensure that the remaining student expectations are content driven; and - to carefully consider an estimate of the amount of time necessary for students to develop mastery of the content and ensure that all remaining student expectations reasonably can be taught within the amount of time typically allotted for the subject or course prior to the end of the school year or a state end-of-course assessment required by TEC, §39.023, as applicable. <p>Any and all official documents must be left with TEA staff. Copies of working drafts may be kept for a committee member's personal use between meetings, but may not be distributed to others outside of the committee.</p>
6	TEKS streamlining committee members work face-to-face (which is the preferred method of meeting) or virtually if face-to-face is not possible. TEA staff, with direction from the SBOE, determines the number of work days needed for 1) determining the amount of time necessary for students to develop mastery of the content in the current TEKS, 2) streamlining the standards; 3) ensuring vertical alignment of the TEKS across all K-12 grade levels, and 4) horizontal alignment of the TEKS to be streamlined with related TEKS previously adopted or under review.
7	TEA staff prepares draft documents that reflect TEKS streamlining committee recommendations to be posted online for informal feedback.
8	TEA staff receives and compiles informal feedback.
9	One representative from each TEKS streamlining committee provides invited testimony regarding first draft recommendations at the SBOE meeting prior to the meeting during which SBOE discussion of the proposed rule amendments occurs. SBOE members provide additional guidance and direction to committees before they prepare final recommendations at the final TEKS review committee meeting.
10	TEKS streamlining committees reconvene to make additional revisions to TEKS based on SBOE guidance.
11	Final recommendations for streamlining to the TEKS are posted on the TEA website and provided to the SBOE.
12	SBOE discusses recommendations received from TEKS streamlining committee members and requests TEA staff to prepare draft rule text.
13	SBOE holds a public hearing and completes first reading and filing authorization. (for 30-day official public comment period – Texas Register)
14	SBOE holds second public hearing prior to the end of the 30-day public comment period.
15	TEA summarizes public comments and provides summaries to the SBOE prior to second reading and final adoption.
16	SBOE members review comments and work on proposed amendments.
17	SBOE members share proposed amendments with one another prior to second reading and adoption.
18	A member wishing to amend TEKS being considered for second reading and final adoption shall submit the amendment in writing to the staff no later than 5:00 p.m. or two hours following adjournment of the Committee of the Full Board, whichever is later, on the day prior to the amendment being considered by the board in accordance with rules adopted by the board relating to the TEKS adoption process. All amendments shall be made available to the public to the extent possible. This rule may be suspended by a 2/3 vote of the members of the board present and voting, with the motion to suspend being debatable.
19	SBOE discusses and completes second reading and final adoption of the TEKS with a specified implementation date. The implementation may not occur on the specified date unless the SBOE has determined that the instructional materials most recently adopted for the subject area continue to sufficiently cover the TEKS as amended.

* Updates are provided throughout this process to the SBOE as appropriate and/or upon request by the Chair.