ACTION OPTIONAL

January 8, 2010

TO THE INDIVIDUAL/ORGANIZATION ADDRESSED:

In accordance with the Texas Education Code (TEC), §39.033, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will make available for administration to private and home schools the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) and TAKS (Accommodated) in English for grades 3-10 and exit level and in Spanish for grades 3-5, the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills-Modified (TAKS-M) for grades 3-11, and the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) tests for grades K-12. The tests will be available at a per-student cost that does not exceed the cost of administering the same test to a Texas public school student.

Private and home schools may participate in the state assessment program by administering the secure tests, the tests previously administered that have been released to the public, or both.

Each private and home school choosing to administer the secure spring 2010 tests will be required to sign an agreement with the agency in which it agrees to maintain security and confidentiality of the test instruments, test all eligible students in all subjects at a particular grade level, follow all procedures specified in the applicable test administration materials, provide to the Commissioner of Education the information listed in TEC, §39.051(b), and reimburse the agency for the cost of the assessment.

Private and home schools interested in participating in the spring 2010 assessments may obtain a copy of the agreement packet online at http://www.TexasAssessment.com/privateschoolpacket or by contacting Pearson at 800-252-9186, **no later than January 25, 2010**. Released tests may be downloaded free of charge from the TEA website at http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/resources/release. There is no deadline for downloading released tests.

Assessment Contact Information

Texas Education Agency

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