

# A Parent's Guide to the STAAR Progress Measure

## WHAT IS THE STAAR PROGRESS MEASURE?

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness® (STAAR®) progress measure gives you information about how much your child has improved in a subject area. For reading, math (including Algebra I), and English, this measure is based on a comparison of your child's test score last year with his or her score this year.

## WHICH GRADES AND SUBJECTS HAVE A STAAR PROGRESS MEASURE?

In 2017, the STAAR progress measure will be reported for the tests listed below:

- reading in grades 4–8
- mathematics in grades 4–8
- English II
- Algebra I

## WHICH TESTS HAVE A PROGRESS MEASURE?

The progress measure is reported for STAAR and STAAR Spanish.

## DID MY CHILD RECEIVE A STAAR PROGRESS MEASURE?

Your child received a STAAR progress measure in 2017 if he or she met the requirements listed below.

- Your child did not receive an ELL progress measure.
- Your child must have taken a higher grade-level test in 2017 than he or she did in 2016 (for example, took the English II test in 2017 and the English I test in 2016).
- For STAAR reading tests, your child must have taken the test in the same language (English or Spanish) in 2016 and 2017.
- For STAAR Algebra I and English II, your child must have taken the test for the first time.

### Part of a Confidential Student Report (CSR) for Grade 5 Reading is shown below:



- A** The STAAR progress measure is reported on your child's Confidential Student Report (CSR). Your child will receive one progress measure for each applicable test. This information can also be found in the student data portal at <http://www.texasassessment.com/students>.

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## HOW ARE THE STAAR PERFORMANCE LEVELS DIFFERENT FROM THE STAAR PROGRESS MEASURE?

The performance levels give you information about how well your child actually did on the test this year. For example, if your child's academic performance level was *Approaches*, he or she achieved the score at or above *Approaches* performance standard, but if your child's performance level was *Masters*, he or she reached at or above the *Masters* performance standard.

It is possible that your child made progress even if he or she did not pass the test. The STAAR progress measure helps you view your child's academic achievement in a different way. The progress measure tells you two things: whether your child improved from the previous year to this year and if he or she did improve, how much improvement there was. This progress can be measured and is reported as the STAAR progress measure.

The amount of growth your child made from last year to this year is classified in one of these ways: *Limited*, *Expected*, or *Accelerated*. If your child's progress measure is *Expected*, he or she has shown expected academic improvement from the previous year to this year. If your child's progress measure is *Accelerated*, your child has shown an amount of academic improvement from the previous year to this year that was much larger than expected.

Progress measures are reported within a content area (mathematics, reading, and high school English). The progress measure is not available for all tests, so it is possible for your child to receive a progress measure for some tests but not for others.

## IS PROGRESS MEASURED THE SAME WAY FOR ALL STUDENTS IN TEXAS?

Progress is measured in the same way for STAAR and STAAR Spanish.

English language learners (ELLs) who take STAAR tests in English may receive a different progress measure. A separate ELL progress measure is used for some ELLs who take the STAAR tests in English. If your child received an ELL progress measure, he or she will not receive a STAAR progress measure. For more detail about the ELL progress measure, please see the **A Parent's Guide to the Texas English Language Learner (ELL) Progress Measure** document located at: <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ellprogressmeasure.pdf>.

## RESOURCES FOR STAAR PROGRESS MEASURES

- **STAAR Progress Measure Questions and Answers:** <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staarprogressmeasureQandA.pdf>
- **Calculating STAAR Progress Measures:** <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/calculatingSTAARprogressmeasures.pdf>