TO ESC AND DISTRICT TESTING COORDINATORS AND BILINGUAL/ESL CONTACTS:

SUBJECT: Modifications to Streamline TELPAS Rater Training for 2010-2011

A number of modifications will be made next year to the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) holistic rating training process. The modifications are designed to make the requirements easier for TELPAS raters to follow and administrators to oversee. Processes across the K-12 training system will be streamlined and aligned, which will –

- reduce instances of raters taking the wrong online training
- help simplify coordinator reports used for monitoring the training
- make the TrainingCenter website easier to use

Detailed information about the modifications is attached. Two of the key changes include the elimination of fall TELPAS rater training and summer training of holistic rating trainers. Please distribute this information to the necessary personnel for use in planning next year’s training activities, calendars, and budgets.

Student Assessment Division staff will conduct a TETN videoconference (Event #7842) on May 11 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. to review the changes and gather input to help finalize planning. The TETN will be open to all districts. Testing coordinators, state-authorized holistic rating trainers, and bilingual/ESL coordinators are encouraged to attend.

If you have questions about the modifications or about TELPAS training in general, contact a member of the English language learner (ELL) assessment team in the Student Assessment Division at (512) 463-9536.

Thank you for the work you do to help our state’s more than 800,000 ELLs meet English language proficiency and academic achievement standards.

Assessment Contact Information
Texas Education Agency (TEA)
Office of Assessment, Accountability, and Data Quality, Criss Cloudt, Associate Commissioner
Division of Student Assessment, Gloria Zyskowski, Deputy Associate Commissioner
(512) 463-9536
E-mail address for ELL assessments: ell.tests@tea.state.tx.us

Attachments:
A.  2010-2011 TELPAS Holistic Rating Training
B.  Spring TELPAS Holistic Rating Training Flow Chart

c: State-authorized TELPAS holistic rating trainers