

Subject: 2016 STAAR Online Tutorials and Practice Tests

January 29, 2016

To the District and ESC Testing Coordinator Addressed:

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) online tutorials are now available through the STAAR Online Testing Platform. The STAAR practice tests will be released in the next few weeks as they become available. The tutorials and practice tests are designed to provide opportunities for students and staff to familiarize themselves with the online testing environment and embedded tools. It is expected that all students participating in an online test administration complete the tutorial and practice tests prior to taking the assessment. This includes students taking STAAR end-of-course (EOC), STAAR standardized oral administration (SOA), STAAR L, and STAAR A online assessments.

Tutorials

The tutorial is the first step for students to learn about the online testing environment. The tutorial shows students how to navigate through the test, respond to the different question types, and access the available tools. Tutorials are available for each grade/subject and course that is offered online.

Practice Tests

The practice tests are the second step for students to learn about the online testing environment. The practice tests provide students with an opportunity to interact with the test interface, respond to questions, and locate and use available tools. Practice tests will be available for each grade/subject and course that is offered online. The content used in an individual practice test is representative of content for that grade band and subject but does not necessarily align to the specific curriculum standards for that test.

The STAAR Online Testing Platform operates through a secure browser that must be installed on a desktop or tablet. Instructions for downloading and installing the secure browser are included in the attachment.

For questions about the STAAR program, call TEA's Student Assessment Division at (512) 463-9536. For questions about the STAAR Online Testing Platform or for support installing the secure browsers, call the Texas Assessment Support Center at (855) 333-7770.

Assessment Contact Information

Texas Education Agency

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Accessing the Secure Browser for the STAAR Online Testing Platform

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) Online Testing Platform operates through a secure browser that must be installed on your desktop or tablet in order to access the tutorials, practice tests, and operational tests. For a complete listing of supported operating systems and hardware requirements see the *Unified Minimum Systems Requirements for the Administration of Online Assessments* document, available at www.TexasAssessment.com/technology.

The secure browsers for desktop systems (Windows and Mac) install by running the installers listed below. After installation, click the desktop icon to access the STAAR Online Testing Platform.

The secure browsers for other platforms can only be accessed through applications that are available in their respective stores. The links below will direct you to the appropriate application for download.

Select among the following links to locate and download the appropriate STAAR Online Testing Platform secure browser for your device(s).

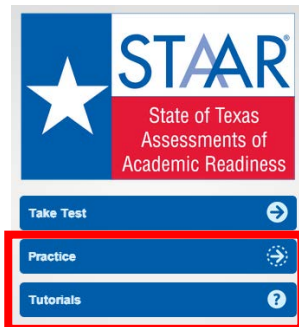
- [Windows \(PC\)](#)
- [Mac](#)
- [Chromebook](#)
- [iPad](#)
- Android (coming soon)
- Linux (coming soon)

The STAAR tutorials and practice tests are open to the public. Once you have downloaded the secure browser, follow the steps on the next page to access the tutorials or practice tests.

1. Click on the secure browser icon to launch the STAAR Online Testing Platform.

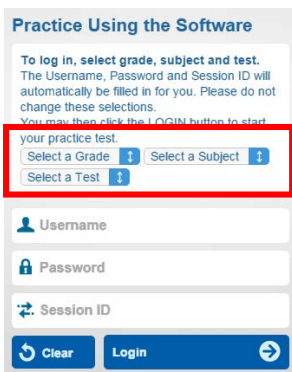


2. Select Practice or Tutorials.



3. From the drop down menus, select the Grade, Subject, and Test.

The username, password, and session ID will populate automatically. Do not edit the prepopulated fields.



4. Click Login to begin.

