January 20, 2011

Subject: 2011–2012 Student Assessment Testing Calendar

TO THE ESC AND DISTRICT TESTING COORDINATOR ADDRESSED

Please DO NOT reply to this e-mail.

The purpose of this e-mail is to notify you that the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has reviewed all comments submitted to the agency regarding the proposed 2011–2012 testing calendar. The final calendar can be accessed on TEA's website at http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/calendars/.

Although the TEA attempted to address all comments received, several issues could not be resolved for the 2011–2012 administrations. During the first year of implementation of the STAAR program, the end-of course (EOC) assessments will be administered on assigned days, although students who are absent on the scheduled testing day(s) will be allowed to make up the test(s) at any time during the testing window. TEA will reconsider the schedule for the 2012–2013 school year once the spring 2012 administration is evaluated, particularly any issues with test security that might arise because of the testing window. In addition, because TEA is considering imposing testing time limits for STAAR, the effects of that decision could change how assessments are scheduled.

The TEA is aware that there are issues specific to school districts/campuses that operate on non-traditional schedules. Testing for students who complete courses at the end of the first semester will only be an issue for the 2011–2012 school year as there will be a fall administration scheduled in subsequent years.

The TEA acknowledges that results from the end-of-course (EOC) administrations will not be available to school districts until late May/early June, but it is not possible to administer the EOC assessments any earlier because of the statutory restriction on testing prior to the first full week in May.

Please note that although TEA was informed of a conflict between March primary testing (March 26–March 30, 2012) and UIL activities, it is not possible to move that administration into April due to the conflict with Good Friday and Passover holidays that would result. The TEA will, however, work with districts to resolve any conflicts with UIL events. In addition, the TEA is aware of the conflicts that exist with Advanced Placement testing and we are working with The College Board to explore alternate testing dates for Texas students in subsequent years.

If you have any questions about this information, please contact the Student Assessment Division at (512) 463-9536.

Assessment Contact Information

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