



2026–27 HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List Application Resources

Application Preview

Product Information

1. Product Name
2. Product Website
3. Company Name
4. Company Address

Contact Information

5. Primary Contact Name & Title
6. Primary Contact Phone Number
7. Primary Contact Email
8. Secondary Contact Name & Title
9. Secondary Contact Phone Number
10. Secondary Contact Email
11. Did you or someone from your team attend the HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List Webinar for Vendors? Or did you watch the webinar asynchronously? (This is a prerequisite for all applicants to ensure you are aware of and fully understand the criteria for approval.)
12. Did you or someone from your team read the HB 1416 Vendor Application Guide prior to submitting this application? (This is a prerequisite for all applicants to ensure you are aware of and fully understand the criteria for approval.)
13. Please check the subject your product supports. (**One subject** per submission)
Math, reading, science, social studies, Algebra I, biology, English I, English II, US History
14. Please check the grade band your product supports. (**One grade band** per submission)
Elementary: 4,5; Middle School: 6,7,8; High School: 9,10,11

Data

15. Does your organization, or a related third party acting on your behalf, store data related to your services and support provided?
16. If yes, please explain the types of data your organization or a related third party acting on your behalf will store.
17. Does your organization store or intend to store any data outside of the United States?
18. If yes, please explain the type of data that will be stored outside of the United States.
19. Do you intend to share any data with other organizations?
20. If yes, please explain the type of data you plan to share with other organizations.

Supplemental Instruction Requirements and Emergent Bilingual Supports

21. TEC Sec. 31.002 defines full subject tier one materials as “instructional material designed to, if implemented as designed, provide a student with mastery of the essential knowledge and skills for a certain subject and grade level in the required curriculum under Sec. 28.002 or for prekindergarten without the need for supplementation.” Does your product align with this definition?
22. Does your product provide at least 30 hours of supplemental instruction?
23. Link evidence that shows that your product provides at least 30 hours of supplemental instruction here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Linked documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
24. Does your product include at least one weekly session of computerized instruction? (Researched best practices recommend three sessions per week for a minimum of 30 minutes per session.)
25. Link sample session schedule here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Linked documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
26. Do your lesson guides indicate at least 90% of TEKS coverage for all levels of the selected grade band??
27. Link lesson guides with TEKS alignment document per subject/grade level here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
28. Does your product provide resources for emergent bilingual students?
29. Link emergent bilingual resources here. Please be sure to include the languages your product supports. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
30. Are local education agencies (LEAs) in Texas currently using your product?
31. Please provide the names of the Texas LEAs currently using your product. If the list is lengthy, you may provide a link to your list. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved)

Progress Monitoring

32. Formative assessments monitor student learning to provide ongoing feedback to help students improve their learning. Do your lessons include formative assessments?
33. Link formative assessments for review here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Linked documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
34. Summative assessments evaluate student learning by comparing it against the standard or expectation of mastery. Do your lessons include summative assessments?

35. Link summative assessments for review here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Linked documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
36. Does your program provide progress monitoring tools/reports?
37. Link your progress monitoring tools/reports for review here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Linked documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)

Student Independence

38. Formative assessments monitor student learning to provide ongoing feedback to help students improve their learning. Do your lessons include formative assessments?
39. Link formative assessments for review here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Linked documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
40. Summative assessments evaluate student learning by comparing it against the standard or expectation of mastery. Do your lessons include summative assessments?
41. Link summative assessments for review here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Linked documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
42. Does your program provide progress monitoring tools/reports?
43. Link your progress monitoring tools/reports for review here. (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Linked documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)

Student Usage Targets & Product Efficacy

44. Can you confirm whether the research study you are submitting was completed at any time within the last 8 years? (Studies older than 8 years will not be accepted.)
45. Can you confirm whether the research study you are submitting has undergone peer-review that is thoroughly developed? (For this submission, "peer-reviewed" means that it has undergone independent evaluation and critique by scholarly peers that hold no conflict of interest. No conflict of interest means that the company has not paid for the external review or evaluation. Furthermore, it means that the reviewer does not stand to personally benefit (socially or otherwise) from a positive review.)
46. If your product efficacy study does not include peer-reviewed research, please explain why not.
47. Link well-developed peer-reviewed research here. (**Limit of two studies;** application will **not** be reviewed if more than two studies are submitted. Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved.)
48. What is the recommended research-based usage metrics for your product? (Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)

49. Have you completed research that reflects product efficacy, including effective group ratios, minimum dosage, and outcomes related to student usage and student performance?
50. Link report(s) reflecting efficacy, including effective group ratios, minimum dosage, and outcomes related to student usage and student performance. (**Limit of two studies;** application will **not** be reviewed if more than two studies are submitted. Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
51. Does your evidence indicate that your product is more effective than individual or group instruction?
52. Link your evidence indicating that your product is more effective than individual or group instruction. (**Limit of two studies;** application will **not** be reviewed if more than two studies are submitted. Vendor must ensure links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved. Documents with screenshots should be no more than one page.)
53. Please review the Vendor Requirements for Approved HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List link in the email. Do you agree to abide by these terms, conditions, and affirmations?

Application Guide

2026-27 HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List Application Guide for Vendors

This document provides detailed guidance on completing the HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List Application. Products on the ratio waiver list must utilize automated, computerized, or other augmented methods for providing accelerated instruction. Evaluation criteria include product efficacy, rigor of supporting research, student independence opportunities, alignment with accelerated instruction requirements, and alignment with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

Vendor Requirements

- Vendors must attend or asynchronously view the [HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List Webinar](#) for new vendors at **10 a.m. CST on Friday, October 31**. The webinar will be posted on the [HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List Products | Texas Education Agency](#).
- Vendors must read this guide in full to understand the approval criteria.

Important Reminders:

- Ensure all links provided are accurate and functional; links that do not work will keep a product from being approved.
- Smartsheet **does not** accept embedded hyperlinks; submit **full URLs**.
- Documents with screenshots must be limited to one page and clearly represent the evidence being provided.
- Smartsheet has a **4,000-character limit, including** spaces and punctuation.
- Demo accounts will **not** be reviewed.

- Vendors may submit up to **two** studies, each conducted within the last **8 years**.
- Vendors may apply for multiple subjects and grade bands; however, each submission is limited to **one** subject and **one** grade band.
 - Elementary: Grades 4 and 5
 - Middle school: Grades 6,7, and 8
 - High school: Grades 9,10, and 11

Product Requirements

- Products must be used for supplemental instruction and **not** classified as tier one materials.
- Products must meet statutory and TEA requirements:
 - Provide at least 30 hours of supplemental instruction.
 - Include at least one weekly session of computerized instruction.
 - Cover at least 90% of TEKS and work towards 90% ELPS coverage for all selected grade levels.
 - Provide resources for emergent bilingual students.
 - Include an authentic Spanish component where applicable.
 - Be currently used in Texas school systems.

Assessment and Feedback

- Products must include formative and summative assessments to monitor and evaluate student learning.
- Progress monitoring tools must provide tailored data for both teachers and administrators.
- Products must
 - Adjust lessons to address misunderstandings and extend learning.
 - Provide or remove supports to meet individual student needs.
 - Offer timely, constructive, and scaffolded feedback to build conceptual understanding of the TEKS.
 - Be rated as providing high-level, medium-level, or low-level support. See [HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List \(texas.gov\)](#) for additional information.

Efficacy Study Guidelines

Vendors may submit up to **two research studies** as evidence of product efficacy. These research studies must meet the following criteria:

1. Study Recency

- Each study must have been completed **within the last 8 years**.
- Studies older than 8 years will **not** be accepted and will **disqualify** a product from approval.

2. Peer Review Requirement

- Submitted studies must be **peer reviewed** by a scholarly journal.
- “Peer-reviewed” means the study has undergone **independent** evaluation by qualified scholarly peers with **no** conflict of interest.

- No conflict of interest includes
- The company did **not pay** for the external review or evaluation.
 - ◆ The reviewer does **not stand to benefit personally** (socially or otherwise) from a positive review.
- 3. Usage Metrics

Studies must include recommended research-based usage metrics that reflect how the product is intended to be used.
- 4. Population and Grade-Level Representation
 - Research must demonstrate efficacy across diverse student populations and grade levels.
 - Studies intended to support efficacy for a specific grade band must include treatment groups that align with that grade band.
 - A study will be accepted for the full grade band if it includes treatment groups that cover **at least half** of the grade levels within that band.
- 5. Treatment Group Requirements
 - Size: Must be large enough to support statistically significant findings.
 - Scope: Treatment groups should include
 - Students from different contexts or demographic characteristics, or
 - Students with characteristics similar to those in Texas.
 - ◆ If claiming similarity to Texas, the study must **explicitly describe** how the treatment group aligns with Texas demographics (e.g., ethnicity, socioeconomic status, geographic region).
- 6. Evidence Ratings

Each study will be evaluated and rated based on the strength of evidence it provides: strong evidence, moderate evidence, some evidence, or weak/no evidence. See Evaluation Rubric for Student Usage Targets and Product Efficacy Variables for additional information.

The research studies provided should indicate that the product is **more effective** than individual or group instruction.

TEA has partnered with a third-party reviewer to evaluate the research studies submitted with each application.

Alignment with ESSA and WWC Standards

We acknowledge that ESSA tiers of evidence have changed, and while our evaluation shares similarities with What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) and ESSA criteria, we maintain a 1-4 scoring cluster to categorize the strength of evidence. This approach allows for consistent and transparent evaluation while recognizing the value of multiple research designs.

WWC prioritizes a fully experimental design, i.e., randomized controlled trial, above a quasi-experimental design, and a quasi-experimental design above descriptive design. See [What Works Clearinghouse Procedures and Standards Handbook, Version 5.0](#) for additional information.

Our third-party reviewer will use TEA's Guide for HB 1416 Ratio Waiver List Product Evaluation of Effectiveness to evaluate and score the submitted research as

- Tier 1- Strong Evidence
- Tier 2- Moderate Evidence: Substantial Impact
- Tier 3: Promising Evidence: Emerging Support
- Tier 4: Demonstrates a Rationale: Theoretical Basis.

While the entire rubric will be part of the evaluation process, TEA chooses to prioritize those who receive the highest scores in the student independence block and the research block when determining if a product meets criteria for Commissioner approval.

Final approval is at the discretion of the Commissioner.