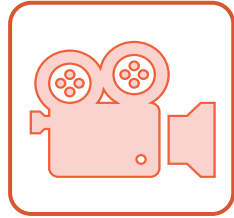




Spring 2026 House Bill 8 Assessment Updates, Event #1296

What to Expect in Today's Webinar



Recording

This presentation is being recorded and will be available in the Learning Management System (LMS) in the upcoming week.



Structure

This sessions will follow a clear agenda that is presenter-led.



Questions

Questions may be submitted at any time using the Zoom Q&A feature. Due to the length of today's session, we may not be able to address questions live; however, we are committed to supporting you. Responses to common questions, along with additional guidance, will be shared on our website and reflected in updated FAQ resources.

Presenters for Today



Chris Rozunick
Senior Division Director
Assessment Design, Development, & Quality



Kevin Malandrucolo
Senior Division Director
Student Assessment

1. Bill Overview
2. Assessment design and development plans
3. Timelines for HB8 assessment planning and transition

Overview:

HB 8, Passed during the 89th, 2nd Special session requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to transition the current summative assessment into an instructionally supportive assessment program by SY 2027-28.

The last administration of the current STAAR test will be Spring 2027 for 3-8 and December 2027 for EOC.

Purposes:

The agency shall create and implement an instructionally supportive statewide assessment program that:



(1) provides for **progress monitoring**;



(2) is **balanced, innovative, and streamlined**; and



(3) is **based on essential knowledge and skills** adopted by the State Board of Education under Section 28.002.

Some HB8 requirements begin in SY2025-26

- ✓ Teachers will be paid a daily rate for educator reviews (i.e., EIRs, EPRs)
 - Starting this summer, educators can be paid \$200 per day
- ✓ Monday Testing Rule Repealed
 - Districts may choose to test on the first Monday of a testing window
- ✓ Test Anxiety Mitigation
 - Language added to Test Administrator Manuals
- ✓ Family Portal Results In One Click
 - TexasAssessment.gov updated
- ✓ District Results Notification
 - 98% of districts already utilize SSO
- ✓ Automatic Rescore Process
 - Process began two years early w/ December 2025 administration

En español

TEA | Family Portal

Unique Student Access Code: 6-Character Unique Code or TSDS ID or PEIMS ID: ID Number

Date of Birth: Month Day Year

Legal First Name: Legal First Name

SIGN ON

Information and Support: Where can I find my access code?, Test Score Release Dates, Frequently Asked Questions

More Support: Having trouble logging in?, Supported Browsers

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ECRs on RLA assessments when students are **1 point away** from the next Performance Level will be automatically rescored by hand.

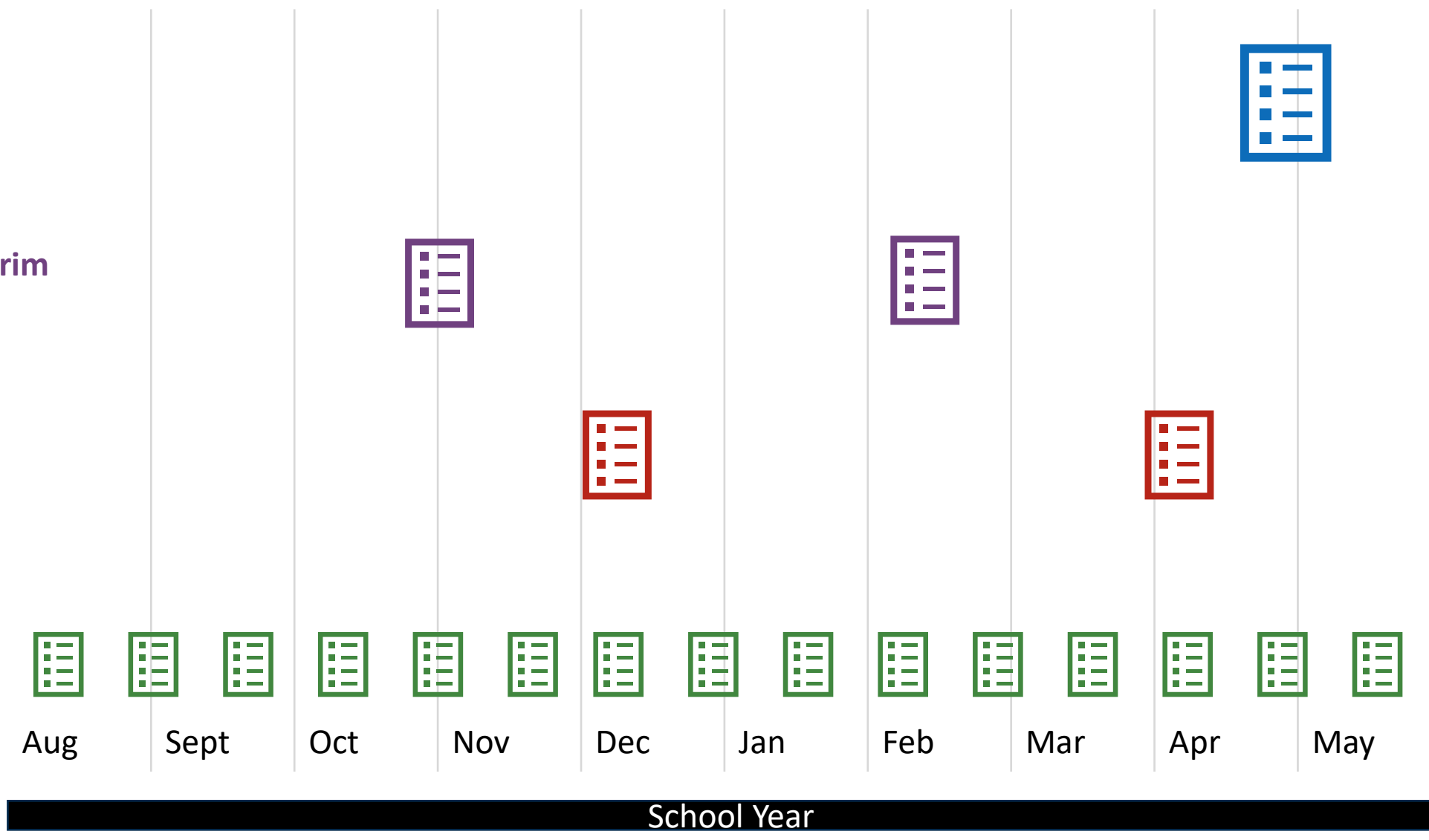
The local assessment landscape is highly varied, and implementation fidelity can be inconsistent

**State
Summative**

**Optional State Interim
Assessments**


**District
Benchmarks**

**Classroom
Formatives**



The future state with HB8 (SY27-28) features a more streamlined approach, recapturing student instructional time

House Bill 8 Changes

BOY

optional for EOC

*Alternative assessment list for BOY/MOY pending**

MOY

optional for EOC

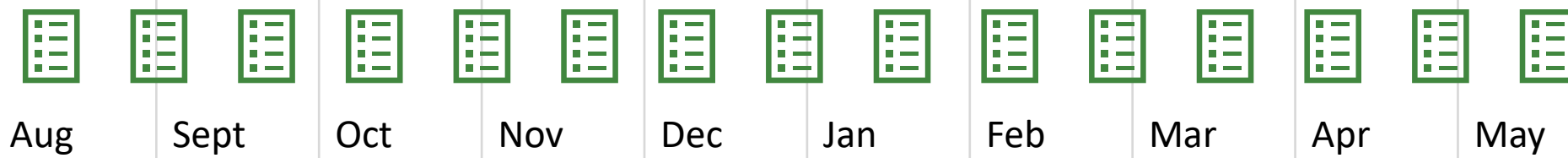
EOY

Only EOY assessments are used for accountability

District Benchmarks

No longer allowable due to TEC Chapter 39, Section 39.0263

Classroom Formatives



School Year

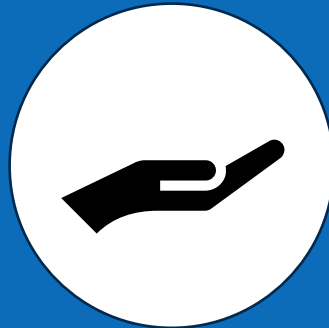
*Announcement of allowable third-party assessment list coming Summer 2026

The Student Success Tool (SST) builds on the key strengths of STAAR



Item Bank Vetted By Texas Teachers

All items must be approved by a committee of current Texas public school teachers in each grade and subject, with agreement from committee members that questions are tightly TEKS-aligned



Universal Accessibility

The most comprehensive set of accommodations are available on the online platform, intended to mimic accommodations provided during instruction



Unparalleled Transparency

EOY items and student responses are made visible to educators and parents so that everyone can see exactly how well each student performed (via [TXassessment.gov](https://www.txassessment.gov))

These strengths will serve as the foundation moving into the new assessment system

1



Reduced Test Administration Burden

Certain test administration practices eliminated/ streamlined for tests to be administered with minimum disruption to campus learning environments and bell schedules

2



Rapid Results

EOY results available within 48 hours of the assessment window close; Results for BOY/MOY provided the same day a student takes the assessment (by second year of SST)

3



Norm-Referenced Within Year Growth

Reports show longitudinal student-level growth compared to other similar students within the state

4

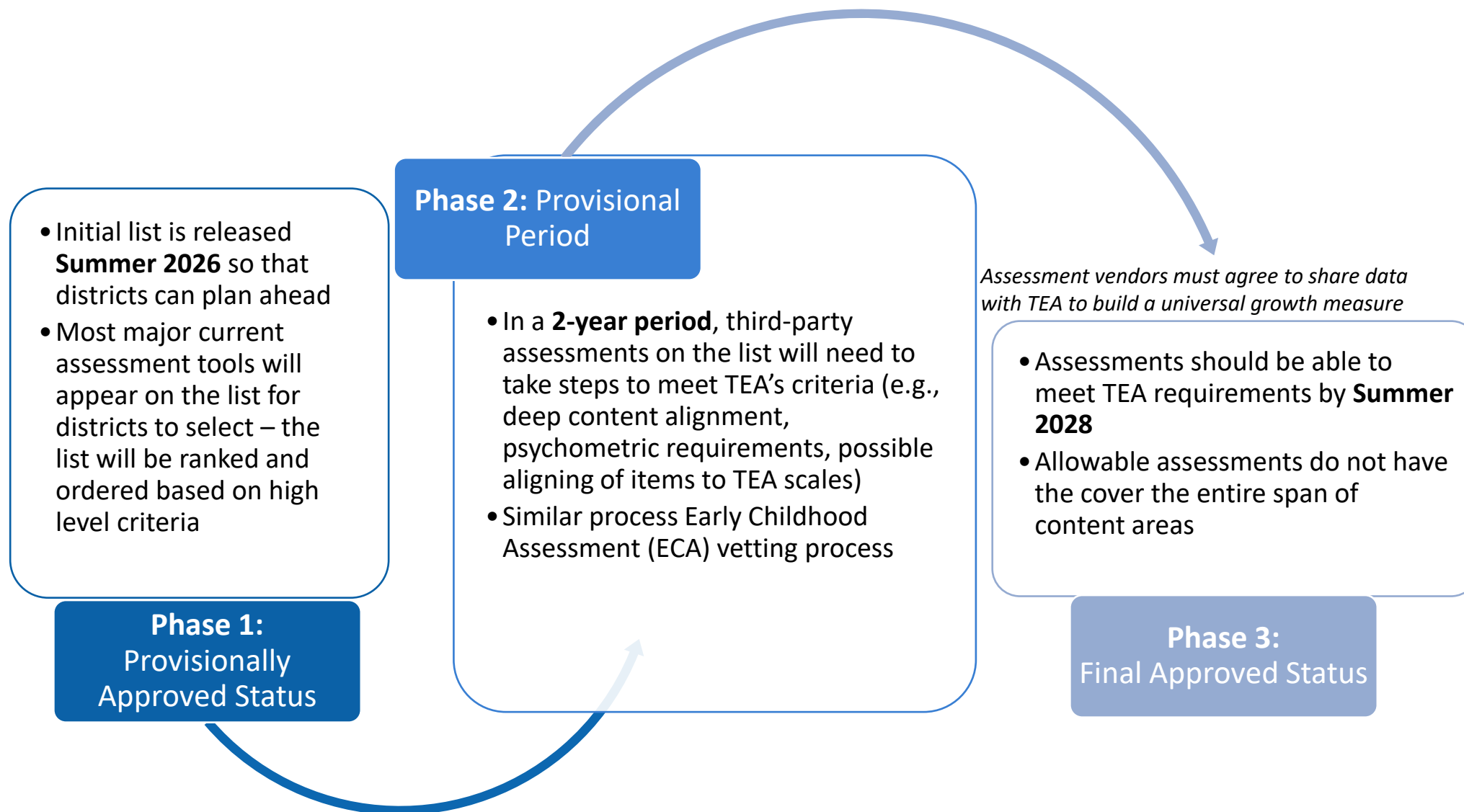


Multiple Data Platform Integrations

Multiple methods are available for accessing results

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A phased process will need to be implemented for developing an approved alternative assessment list



Note: Every third-party assessment would have to undergo a multi-stage process to be a certified alternative for SST, even outside of the initial timeline

	Beginning-of-year (BOY)	Middle-of-year (MOY)	End-of-year (EOY) <i>Two parts</i>	
Calendar	September	January - February	Early April (RLA only)	May
Full Scope to allow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ability to test off-grades for M/RLA ✓ Off grade adaptivity, where possible ✓ Progress monitoring to support local instruction (BOY-MOY, MOY-EOY) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Summative Results ✓ EOY-EOY Growth Measure will remain 	
Format*	Item level Adaptive (RLA, passage level adaptive)	Item level Adaptive (RLA, passage level adaptive)	Fixed	Fixed (allows for full form release)
Item types	Machine scored (no adjudication)	Machine scored (no adjudication)	Extended Constructed Response (ECR)	Machine scored (no adjudication)
Test Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ End of window in Y1 ✓ Immediate Y2 and beyond ✓ Texas specific normed results (State and District) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 48 hrs. after close of window ✓ Texas specific normed results (State and District) 	

**Fixed forms for each stage (BOY, MOY, EOY) will be developed to accommodate paper, PES, Braille, and ASL administrations*

1



Adaptive BOY and MOY Tests

Item-level and passage-level (RLA) adaptive tests that can adjust to student level mastery of TEKS; Data will support differentiated instruction, acceleration, and MTSS

2



Shorter Test Length

As much as 30% shorter per testing event, compared to the STAAR

3



Shorter Reading Passages

Students will experience a lighter reading load, with passages around half the length of STAAR passages

4



Writing Improvements

ECR scoring will move from a 10 pt. rubric to 6 pts, with zero scores reserved for only blank or nonsense responses; SCRs eliminated; Auto ECR rescore process implemented

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We are at this phase




Fall 2025

- HB8 TAA (released 10/16)
- HB8 FAQ (iterative)
- Item development begins



Spring 2026

- Embedded field test (legacy and new RLA design)
- **Standalone field test**
- Testing calendars release (SY27-28)

Summer 2026

- Educator Item Review and other stakeholder feedback – blueprints  rubrics, etc.
- **Reporting prototypes release**
- Announcement of allowable third-party assessment list

Fall 2026

- One-stop shop webpage
- Implementation roadmap for test coordinators
- Test design blueprints and rubrics
- Reporting design feedback 
- Cognitive labs for students 

Spring 2027

- Final reporting tools and score reports
- Embedded field test (legacy and new RLA design)
- **Standalone field test**
- Transition report for the legislature
- Trainings for educators

Fall 2027

- Go-live for BOY/MOY
- Family portal results
- Digital delivery of reports

Spring 2028

- Go-live for EOY
- Release of full EOY accountability data reports (delayed due to standard setting)
- **Standalone field test**

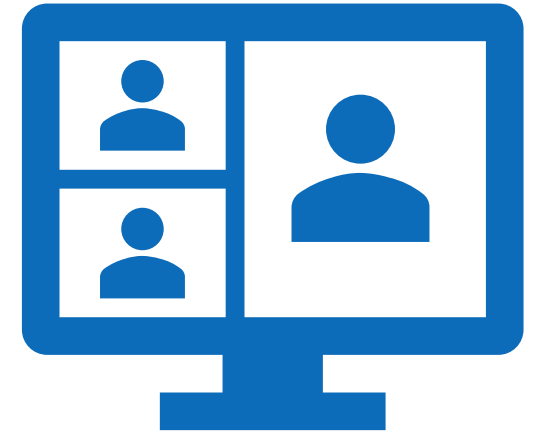
Spring and Summer Engagement Stakeholder Mapping

	Other	Educators	Parents	Students
Test Rubric & Blueprints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educator Advisory Committee (EAC) • Texas Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educator Item Review (EIR) • EAC • Content Area Groups (TASM, CREST, TSSLA) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cog labs
Item & Passage Review		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EIR 		
Logo & Naming Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Classroom Teacher Association (2x) • EAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas PTA (2x) 	
Reporting Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TTAC • Texas Transform Ed • Learning Heroes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Classroom Teacher Association • EAC • Content Area Groups (TASM, CREST, TSSLA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas PTA 	
TIA Integration		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TIA Conference 		

In coordination with TASI, the Student Assessment Division offers webinars on relevant topics during the school year, such as program updates and additional training. The 2026–27 webinar schedule opens with the:

House Bill 8 Assessment Updates, Event #1288

Thursday, August 27, 2026
9:00–11:00 a.m. (CT)



District staff should contact their education service centers (ESCs) to register and access webinar registration links.

Registration is limited. The recording will be posted in the Learning Management System (LMS).

Volunteer Opportunity: Cognitive Lab Sessions

Partner with TEA in upcoming cognitive lab sessions to inform the continued development of assessments associated with the Student Success Tool and/or the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) redesign initiatives.

- Small number of students across multiple grade levels, including emergent bilingual students
- May include in-person question-and-answer discussions

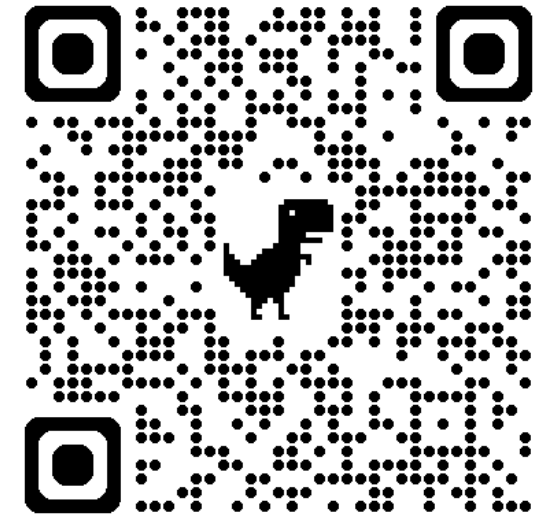


Interested? Complete the Cognitive Lab form.

Texas Educators: TEA Needs Your Input!



- Support student success by serving on an **assessment committee**.
- Participating committee members receive the following:
 - \$200 per day stipend
 - Compensation for travel, accommodations, and substitute coverage
 - Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits
- Teachers, instructional coaches, content specialists, and administrators play an essential role:
 - **Passage Review:** reviewing Reading Language Arts (RLA) test passages.
 - **Item Review:** reviewing and approving each potential test question.
 - **Constructed Response Range-Finding:** setting scoring boundaries for essays.
- Visit TexasAssessment.gov or use the QR code to sign up.



We value your input—please complete today’s survey.



Your feedback not only helps us improve our webinars but also informs the resources and supports needed to support your district with SST implementation.

For inquiries related to the development and administration of state assessments, reporting activities, or data corrections, please contact:

- Student Assessment Help Desk
- (512) 463-9536
- Student Assessment | Texas Education Agency



Disclaimer

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Thank you for joining us!
