

SUBJECT: Recording Time-to-Test: Revised Appendices Now Available

April 26, 2016

To the District and ESC Testing Coordinators Addressed:

ACTION REQUIRED

This email serves to follow up on the communication dated April 11, 2016 where districts were notified of changes to district requirements for recording time taken to test during the May 2016 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) assessments. Test administrators will not need to mark the total break time on the student answer document.

To assist districts in providing test administrators with directions, revised appendices for Recording Time-to-Test Information on Answer Documents in the 2016 STAAR Grades 3–5 and Grades 6–8 Test Administrator Manuals are now available on the TEA website at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/manuals/>.

House Bill 743 requires that STAAR assessments be designed so that 85% of students can complete the grades 3–5 assessments in two hours and 85% of students can complete the grades 6–8 assessments in three hours. In response, TEA has been gathering data during the spring 2016 administrations to determine how to adjust the remaining grades 3–8 assessments to meet the testing time requirements. In order to best serve the students of Texas, TEA needs valid data to consider when making these adjustments. It is imperative that districts provide accurate information regarding the time taken to test by individual students. TEA is asking that you emphasize the importance of this data collection to your campuses and test administrators.

For questions concerning marking time-to-test, please contact the Student Assessment Division at (512) 463-9536 or by email at student.assessment@tea.texas.gov.