



Braille

Description of Designated Support

This designated support provides brailled test materials to a student with a Visual Impairment (VI) who is unable to access printed test materials.

Assessments

For a student who meets the eligibility criterion, this designated support may be used on

- STAAR

Student Eligibility Criterion

A student may use this designated support if he or she

- routinely uses braille materials during classroom instruction and classroom testing.

Authority for Decision and Required Documentation

- For a student not receiving special education or Section 504 services, the decision is made by the appropriate team of people at the campus level (e.g., RTI team, student assistance team) based on the eligibility criterion and is documented according to district policies.
- For a student receiving Section 504 services, the decision is made by the Section 504 committee based on the eligibility criterion and is documented in the student's IAP.
- For a student receiving special education services, the decision is made by the ARD committee based on the eligibility criterion and is documented in the student's IEP.
- In the case of an ELL with a disability, the decision is made by the applicable group above in conjunction with the student's LPAC. The decision is to be documented by the LPAC in the student's permanent record file and by the other applicable group, as described above.
- After state testing, BR must be recorded in the ACCOMM. field on the student's answer document.

Examples/Types

The state provides both contracted and uncontracted braille test materials in both English Braille American Edition (EBAE) and Unified English Braille (UEB).

Special Instructions/Considerations

1. A student who uses this designated support may complete the test in a separate setting to eliminate distractions to other students and to ensure the confidentiality of the test.
2. Student responses cannot be scored unless they are recorded using a No. 2 pencil on an answer document according to the procedures outlined in the Basic Transcribing and/or Complex Transcribing policies.
3. Specific information about administering braille tests is available in the General Instructions for Administering Braille State Assessments document, located on the TEA's Accommodation Resources webpage.
4. Specific Braille Instructions (SBI) supplement the test administrator manuals. They are shipped with the individual braille kits and posted online at <http://www.TexasAssessment.com/braille>. **Test administrators must review these instructions prior to test day to ensure that the test is administered properly.** Testing irregularities could result if the SBIs are not used.
5. For students who take a braille test and are also eligible for Content and Language Supports, a request for a paper version of STAAR with embedded supports should be submitted to TEA. This request should also include the rationale for any designated supports requiring TEA approval (e.g., Complex Transcribing, Other) needed for the student. Test administrators will be provided with instructions regarding the administration of Content and Language Supports for students taking a braille test. The paper administration request document can be found on the TEA's Coordinator Manual Resources webpage.