Parent Resource:

Designated Supports Available for STAAR, STAAR Spanish, and TELPAS

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

STUDENT ASSESSMENT DIVISION

2020 - 2021

OVERVIEW

This guide provides parents with a general overview of the designated supports that are available for use on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) and the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS). Designated supports are accommodations that change the way a student accesses an assessment, without changing the content being assessed. This guide provides an overview of the designated supports that can be approved by the appropriate team at a student's school and should not be independently used to make assessment decisions for students. For more information on other supports, or for a more detailed explanation of the designated supports listed below, please refer to the Accommodations Resources webpage.

LAYOUT OF THIS GUIDE

The heading lists the student populations that are eligible for the designated supports listed.

If the student has a Section 504 committee, the student may be eligible for:

Below are descriptions of what each column includes.

Support	Description	Eligibility	Examples
This column includes the name of the designated support and lists the assessments it can be used on. Clicking on the link will open the applicable policy document.	This column provides a description of what a test administrator is allowed to do, or the process/materials allowed during testing.	This column provides the eligibility criteria that the student must meet in order to be able to use the designated support. Eligibility will be determined and documented by the appropriate committee. When determining eligibility, it is important to know if the student has routinely and effectively used the support in class. Routinely does not mean the student uses the support every day, it means the student has used the support often enough during class and testing that he or she is able to use it independently. In addition, the support has been proven to be effective in meeting the student's needs.	This column includes specific examples of how the designated support should be used during testing. For some designated supports, only the specific given examples may be provided to the student. For the remaining designated supports, the examples are suggestions of what could be provided to students.

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SUMMARY OF DESIGNATED SUPPORTS AVAILABLE FOR STAAR, STAAR Spanish, AND TELPAS

This chart provides a summary of all available designated supports based on student committee. An "X" is used when indicating which supports are available based on a specific student committee.

If the student has one or more of the following committees, he/she may qualify for:	RTI, Student Assistance Team, or other related support	Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC)	Section 504 Committee	Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) Committee
Basic Transcribing	X		X	X
Braille	X		X	X
Calculation Aids			X	X
Content and Language Supports		X	X	X
Extra Time	X	X	X	X
Individualized Structured Reminders	X		X	X
Large Print	X		X	X
Manipulating Test Materials	X		X	X
Mathematics Manipulatives	X		X	X
Oral/Signed Administration	X	X	X	X
Spelling Assistance			X	X
Supplemental Aids	X		X	X

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If the student has a Section 504 Committee, they might be eligible for:

Support	Description	Eligibility	Examples
Basic Transcribing Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish • TELPAS	Allows a test administrator to transfer student answers onto an answer document or into the online system for a student who is not able to do so on their own	Available for students who already routinely and effectively use Basic Transcribing in class*	The test administrator may carry out Basic Transcribing to transfer student responses onto the test booklet, answer document, or into the online testing platform **ONLY** when the student: 1. Writes or circles responses in the test booklet 2. Points to responses in the test booklet of on the computer screen 3. Dictates or signs responses for multiple-choice and griddable questions 4. Writes responses on another workspace (e.g., scratch paper, dry erase board) or types responses on a word processor 5. Uses speech-to-text available as an online embedded support on STAAR or STAAR Spanish with a writing component 6. Uses speech-to-text software, applications, or devices 7. Dictates or signs information to be written in the margins of the test booklet or in the notes tool for online tests (does NOT apply to math calculation or responses to the written composition)
Braille Available for: • STAAR	Provides braille test materials to a student with a Visual Impairment (VI) who is unable to access printed test materials	Available for students who routinely and effectively use braille materials in class*	The student may **ONLY** use: 1. Contracted and uncontracted braille test materials in Unified English Braille (UEB) in all grades and subjects 2. Online screen reader support for refreshable braille displays in reading, writing, and social studies assessments

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Support	Description	Eligibility	Examples
Mathematics Manipulatives Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish	Allows for the use of objects or pictures of objects for a student to move and touch in order to visualize abstract concepts	Available for students who routinely and effectively use math manipulatives in class*	The student may **ONLY** use: 1. Real or play money 2. Clocks with or without numbers shown on clock face; the clocks should NOT have gears 3. Base-ten blocks 4. Different types of counters 5. Algebra tiles without words, labels, pictures, acronyms, mnemonics, numbers, symbols, or variables 6. Fraction pieces without labels 7. Geometric figures that are grade – or course-appropriate; either three-dimensional form or two dimensional form (but not in both forms), without words, labels, colors used as labels, pictures, acronyms, mnemonics, numbers, symbols, or variables
Individualized Structured Reminders Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish • TELPAS	Allows a test administrator to provide (beyond what is required or allowed for other students) a student with reminders to stay on task during testing	Available for students who routinely and effectively rely on structured reminders in class*	The student **MAY** use but is not limited to: 1. Paperclips or sticky notes to divide the test into sections 2. More-frequent or less-frequent reminders of time left to test 3. Structured reminders that are part of a behavior plan 4. Personal time or clock 5. Index cards that have reminders to continue working
Manipulating Test Materials Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish • TELPAS	Allows the test administrator to physically manipulate test materials, online tools, and equipment for a student who is unable to do so on their own	Available for students who routinely and effectively use this accommodation during class*	The test administrator **MAY** follow student directions to: 1. Turn test booklet pages 2. Position the ruler 3. Use technology (e.g., using the mouse to navigate the pages and use the tools in an online administration) 4. Highlight 5. Position mathematics manipulatives

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Support	Description	Eligibility	Examples
Supplemental Aids Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish	Allows a student to use certain allowable paper-based resources that help in recalling information	Available for students who routinely and effectively use supplemental aids in class*	**ONLY** paper-based supplemental aids that follow the guidelines described in the Supplemental Aids policy document are allowed on the state assessment. Examples of allowable and non-allowable supplemental aids are available in the 2019-2020 Accommodations Allowable Supplemental Aids training PowerPoint® on TEA's Accommodation Resources webpage.
Large Print Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish • TELPAS Reading	Provides a student with enlarged test materials when he or she is unable to effectively access test materials in standard print size	Available for students who routinely and effectively use supplemental aids in class*	The state provides large-print test materials. Available font sizes can be found in the TEA Accommodation Resources webpage.

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Extra Time Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish	Allows a student to have extra time (until the end of the school day) to complete a state assessment	Available for students who routinely and effectively use extra time in class* and are unable to use any accessibility features or other accommodations to address this need, and meets **one** of the following criteria: • The student is a current English learner • The student has an impairment in vision • The student is identified with dyslexia or a related disorder • The student has documented evidence of reading difficulties • The student needs long breaks because he or she has a behavioral or emotional condition that affects attention or focus • The student needs frequent or long breaks because he or she has a physical disability or medical condition that requires a significant amount of time for treatment or recovery • The student is identified with an autism spectrum disorder and needs the entire school day to complete testing in order to maintain as much daily structure and routine as possible	NA

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Support	Description	Eligibility	Examples
Oral/Signed Administration Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish	Allows test material and reference materials to be read aloud or signed to a student	Available to students who routinely and effectively use oral/signed support in class*, and who also meet at least **one** of the following criteria: • The student is a current English learner and takes a STAAR test in English • The student is identified with dyslexia or a related disorder • The student has documented evidence of reading difficulties	Several types of oral administration are available. During an online administration, oral/signed administration can only be provided by using text-to-speech (TTS) or American Sign Language (ASL) videos only. Guidelines on how to provide an oral administration can be found in the Accommodation Resources webpage.
Calculation Aids Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish	Allows a student to use an alternative way to complete computations	Available to students who routinely and effectively use calculation aids in class* and meet **one** of the grade specific eligibility criteria. Please visit the Calculation Aids policy document to determine if student meets the grade specific eligibility criteria.	The student may **ONLY** use a/an: 1. Basic (i.e., four-function) handheld calculator or calculator application 2. Basic calculator available as an online embedded support on STAAR 3. Abacus or Cranmer modified abacus 4. 0-9 addition grid without special numbers (e.g., even numbers) indicated 5. Grade-appropriate multiplication grid without special numbers (e.g., perfect squares) indicated

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Spelling Assistance Available for the written composition on STAAR and STAAR Spanish	Allows a student to use different types of spelling assistance	Available to students who routinely and effectively use spelling assistance in class* **and** have a disability that prevents them from applying basic spelling rules or word patterns to written responses.	The student may **ONLY** use: 1. Visual sound cards 2. Frequently misspelled word list 3. Spell-check function on a word processor or as an online embedded support on STAAR 4. Pocket spell-checker 5. Word-prediction software 6. Text-to-speech software or devices 7. Speech-to-text software, applications, or devices 8. Speech-to-text available as an online embedded support on STAAR and STAAR Spanish
Content and Language Supports Available for: • STAAR • STAAR Spanish	Allows for various types of assistance (e.g., scaffolded directions, assistance with tracking, graphic organizers, simplified language, graphic representations of vocabulary and concepts) to support a student's understanding of selections, test questions, and answer choices.	Available to students who routinely and effectively use content and language supports in class* **and** have a Section 504 committee, ARD committee, or an LPAC for an English learner taking STAAR in English.	Content and Language supports are available only in an online administration as pop-ups, rollovers, prereading text, and supplementary materials. Please visit the Accommodations Resources page for more information on how to provide Content and Language Supports during a paper administration.

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Braille Available for: • STAAR	Provides braille test materials to a student with a Visual Impairment (VI) who is unable to access printed test materials	Available for students who routinely and effectively use braille materials in class*	The student may **ONLY** use: 1. Contracted and uncontracted braille test materials in Unified English Braille (UEB) in all grades and subjects 2. Online screen reader support for refreshable braille displays in reading, writing, and social studies assessments

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