

# 2020–2021

## Interpreting Assessment Reports

TEXAS STUDENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM



State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®)

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness  
End-of-Course (STAAR EOC)

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness  
Alternate 2 (STAAR Alternate 2)

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System Alternate  
(TELPAS Alternate)

Questions concerning this guide should be directed to  
Texas Education Agency's Performance Reporting Department at 512-463-9704.

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# General Information

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This guide provides information about interpreting the results of the Texas student assessment program, which includes

- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®)
- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness End-of-Course (STAAR EOC)
- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness Alternate 2 (STAAR Alternate 2)
- Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)
- Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System Alternate (TELPAS Alternate)

Examples of assessment reports are included to assist campus personnel in understanding and interpreting student performance data, as required by [Section 39.030\(b\)](#) of the Texas Education Code (TEC).

Links to websites and resources in this guide are indicated by blue text.

## Overview of Statewide Student Assessment in Texas

### STAAR

Implemented in 2012, STAAR includes annual assessments for

- reading and mathematics, grades 3–8
- writing at grades 4 and 7
- science at grades 5 and 8
- social studies at grade 8
- end-of-course (EOC) assessments for Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History

STAAR Algebra II and English III will be available in spring 2021 for districts to administer as optional assessments.

### STAAR with Embedded Supports

Embedded supports (e.g., text-to-speech and content and language supports) are available on STAAR assessments for eligible students as individual embedded online accommodations. Paper administrations with embedded supports are also available for eligible students requiring a paper administration of STAAR. Paper administrations with embedded supports require approval of the Texas Education Agency and contain only some of the supports available in the online assessments with embedded supports.

## STAAR Spanish

Spanish versions of STAAR, called STAAR Spanish, are available at grades 3–5 for eligible English learners (ELs) in the same grades and subject areas assessed by the English versions. ELs not eligible for STAAR Spanish may be provided allowable linguistic accommodations on other STAAR assessments.

## STAAR Alternate 2

STAAR Alternate 2 was developed to meet the federal requirements mandated under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), a federal education law previously known as No Child Left Behind. It assesses students in grades 3–8 and high school who have significant cognitive disabilities and receive special education services.

## TELPAS

TELPAS fulfills federal requirements for assessing the English language proficiency (ELP) of ELs in kindergarten through grade 12. TELPAS assesses second language development in the domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Online assessments are used to assess listening, speaking, and reading in grades 2–12. For the other grades and the writing domain, holistically rated assessments based on ongoing classroom observations and written student work are used. TELPAS reports student performance in terms of four English language proficiency levels: beginning, intermediate, advanced, and advanced high. TELPAS results are used in several state and federal accountability and performance-based monitoring indicators.

## TELPAS Alternate

TELPAS Alternate was developed to meet the federal requirements mandated under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which requires states to administer an alternate ELP assessment for ELs with the most significant cognitive disabilities who cannot participate in the general ELP assessment, even with allowable accommodations.



For more information about the Texas state assessments, visit [TEA's Student Assessment Division](#) website.

2020–2021 STAAR Assessments			
Enrolled Grade	Subjects Assessed	Assessment Modes Available	Other Assessments Available
Grade 3	mathematics and reading	paper and online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Spanish STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 4	mathematics, reading, and writing	paper and online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Spanish STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 5	mathematics, reading, and science	paper and online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Spanish STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 6	mathematics and reading	paper and online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 7	mathematics, reading, and writing	paper and online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Alternate 2
Grade 8	mathematics, reading, science, and social studies	paper and online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) STAAR Alternate 2
End-of-Course	Only for courses in which a student is enrolled: Algebra I, Algebra II, English I, English II, English III, Biology, and U.S. History.	paper and online	STAAR with Embedded Supports (paper) for Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History STAAR Alternate 2 for Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History

TELPAS Assessments for the 2020–2021 School Year													
Enrolled Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Online Assessments			listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading	listening speaking reading
Holistically Rated Components	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	writing	writing	writing	writing	writing	writing	writing	writing	writing	writing	writing

TELPAS Alternate Assessments for the 2020–2021 School Year													
Enrolled Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Holistic Inventory			listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing	listening speaking reading writing

## Graduation and Promotion Requirements

In addition to taking the required courses, students must pass STAAR EOC assessments in Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History. In 2015, the 84th Texas Legislature signed into law Senate Bill 149, which revised the state's assessment graduation requirements for students enrolled in Grades 11 or 12 during the 2014-15 school year. The Individual Graduation Committee (IGC) requirements were extended by the Texas Legislature in 2017 and again in 2019 and are in effect through the 2022-23 school year. Under the requirements, a student who failed the end-of-course (EOC) assessment for no more than two of five required courses may receive a Texas high school diploma if the student was determined to be qualified to graduate by an IGC ([TEC §28.0258\(a\) and \(l\)](#); [19 TAC § 101.3022](#)). In 2017, [Senate Bill \(SB\) 463](#) eliminated the TAKS assessment. Students for whom TAKS is a graduation requirement, including former TAAS and TEAMS examinees, may request a district decision or achieve satisfactory performance on an alternate assessment to receive a Texas high school diploma.

## Confidentiality and Reporting of Results

[Section 39.030\(b\)](#) of the Texas Education Code specifies the requirements for maintaining the confidentiality of individual student results and for reporting district-level and campus-level results. The results of individual student performance on academic skills assessment instruments administered under this subchapter are confidential and may be released only in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g). However, overall student performance data must be aggregated by ethnicity, sex, grade level, subject area, district, and campus and made available to the public, with appropriate interpretations, at regularly scheduled meetings of the board of trustees of each school district. The information may not contain the names of individual students or teachers.

Texas Administrative Code, [§101.3014](#) requires school districts and charter schools to report results as follows:

- (a) The superintendent of a school district or chief administrative officer of each charter school shall accurately report all test results as required by the Texas Education Code (TEC), §39.030, with appropriate interpretations, to the school district board of trustees according to the schedule in the applicable test administration materials.
- (b) A school district, charter school, or private school that administers criterion-referenced tests under the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall notify each of its students, his or her parent or guardian, and his or her teacher for that subject of test results, observing confidentiality requirements in the TEC, §39.030.
- (c) All test results shall be included in each student's academic record and shall be furnished for each student transferring to another school district, charter school, or private school.
- (d) The scoring contractor will provide school districts with the results of the machine-scorable assessments administered as required by the TEC, §28.0211, within a ten-day period following the receipt of the test materials from the school district or charter school.

- (e) The scoring contractor will provide school districts with the results of the machine-scorable assessments administered as required by the TEC, §39.023, within a 21-day period following the receipt of the test materials from the school district or charter school. Upon receipt of the assessment results from the agency’s test contractor, a school district or charter school shall disclose a student’s assessment results to a student’s teacher in the same subject area as the assessment for that school year.
- (f) A school district, charter school, or private school that administers criterion-referenced tests under the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall accurately report to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) whether that student transferred into the school or district from out of state during the current school year.
  - (1) Procedures for the reporting of out-of-state transfer students to the TEA shall be established by the TEA in the applicable test administration materials. A school district, an open-enrollment charter school, or a private school administering the tests required by the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall follow procedures specified in those test administration materials.
  - (2) The assessment results of the out-of-state transfer students shall be reported separately to school districts from the results of the district’s other students in addition to the current reporting of assessment results for all students and other student subsets.

Dates for notifying students and parents of the assessment results for each administration are contained in the Calendar of Events Poster and in the [Calendars](#) section in the *District and Campus Coordinator Resources*. The poster is provided to each district prior to the first administration.

## Resources

TEA makes many resources available to school districts and parents. The following is a list of resource pages that are useful for understanding the assessment process and reporting elements.

District Resources Available Online
<a href="#">Information on State Assessments for English Learners</a>
<a href="#">Language Proficiency Assessment Committees (LPACs) Resources</a>
<a href="#">Assessments for Students with Disabilities</a>
<a href="#">STAAR Alternate 2 Resources</a>
<a href="#">STAAR Resources</a>
<a href="#">TELPAS Resources</a>
<a href="#">TELPAS Alternate Resources</a>
<a href="#">STAAR Test Results</a>
<a href="#">Analytic Portal</a>
<a href="#">Assessment Calendars</a>
<a href="#">Administrator FAQs</a>



Parent Resources Available Online
<a href="#">Student Portal</a>
<a href="#">All About the STAAR Test</a>
<a href="#">Understanding Your Child's Score</a>
<a href="#">How to Help Your Child Prepare</a>
<a href="#">Parent FAQs</a>
<a href="#">Assessments for Students with Disabilities</a>
<a href="#">Accommodation Resources</a>