

Content and Language Supports

TEA approval is NOT required.



Description of Designated Support

This designated support 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.

Assessments

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

- STAAR
- STAAR Spanish

NOTE: Not available for Algebra II and English III

Student Eligibility Criteria

A student may use this designated support if

- instructional and assessment decisions are made by a Section 504 committee, ARD committee, or an LPAC for an EL taking an English test.
- he or she routinely, independently, and effectively uses it during classroom instruction and classroom testing.

NOTE: ELs taking STAAR Spanish may be eligible for content and language supports if the the section 504 or ARD committee determines eligibility

Authority for Decision and Required Documentation

- For a student who is an EL, the decision is made by the LPAC based on the eligibility criteria and is documented in the student's permanent record file.
- For a student receiving Section 504 services, the decision is made by the Section 504 committee based on the eligibility criteria 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 criteria and is documented in the student's IEP.
- In the case of an EL 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, there is no need for this designated support to be recorded on the answer document or in the [Assessment Management System](#).

Examples/Types

This designated support is available **only** in an online administration as pop-ups, rollovers, prereading text, and supplementary materials.

Special Instructions/Considerations

1. Refer to the *Educator Guide to Accessibility within the STAAR Program* for more specific information about online features and supports. This guide is located on the Texas Education Agency's (TEA's) [Accommodation Resources](#) webpage.
2. Prior to participating in the STAAR online operational assessment, students and teachers should become familiar with the embedded supports and various tools that are provided in the online tests. There are several resources that can be accessed on TEA's website, including the STAAR online tutorials and released tests.
3. Information about setting up online test sessions for students who are eligible for embedded supports can be found in the [STAAR Assessment Management System User's Guide](#).
4. Technology-based accommodations for a student taking an online test enable most students to test online. However, in rare instances a special request may be made to TEA for approval to administer a paper test booklet. The request for a paper test booklet should include the rationale for any designated supports requiring TEA approval needed for the student. The [paper administration request document](#) can be found in these *District and Campus Coordinator Resources*.
5. For students taking STAAR braille, including students using a refreshable braille display, who are also eligible to receive content and language supports, districts should contact the Texas Assessment Support Center to order STAAR with Embedded Supports materials. Districts do not need to submit a request for TEA to approve for the STAAR with Embedded Supports. Test administrators will be provided with instructions regarding the administration of Content and Language Supports for students taking a braille test or using screen reader support for refreshable braille displays.
6. Students for whom the LPAC recommends the use of this support for any English reading or English EOC assessments may not be reclassified at the end of the school year. In addition, LPACs may not recommend designated supports for an EL whose parents have denied bilingual or ESL services.

Content and Language Supports Guidelines

These designated supports, in the form of pop-ups, rollovers, prereading text, and supplementary materials, are available on STAAR and STAAR Spanish online tests only (they are not available for Algebra II or English III). Although STAAR Spanish uses the same guidelines for Content and Language Supports as the English version of STAAR, some of the accommodations in the pop-ups and rollovers may not be identical due to linguistic differences.

Pop-ups:

- isolate specific information in a question that corresponds to each answer choice
- isolate specific text or information in a selection that is referenced in the question or answer choices
- isolate specific information in a graphic or list that is referenced in the question
- define literary terms
- apply an allowable supplemental aid (e.g., graphic organizer, place-value chart, t-chart, graphic of scientific concept, timeline, map) to specific questions or answer choices
- include the formula from the grade-specific Reference Materials when the question specifies the measure or conversion to be performed
- direct student attention to parts of the grade-specific Reference Materials
- provide clarifying information for a graphic organizer, political cartoon, or map
- provide a visual representation in the selection, question, answer choices, or in the writing prompt by adding graphics, photographs, or animations
- define or clarify construct-irrelevant words, phrases, and sentences using plain language, synonyms, definitions, examples, and consistent language

Rollovers:

- bullet or separate steps in a process (e.g., multi-step problem, sequence of events)
- reword complex questions or answer choices to condense text
- reorganize and simplify historical excerpts

Prereads:

- offer text prior to the reading and editing selections (for grades 3–8 reading, grades 4 and 7 writing, English I, and English II only)

Supplementary Materials:

- blank Punnett squares (Biology only)
- writing checklists (for grades 4 and 7 writing, English I, and English II only)