



Additional SAT, ACT, TSIA and AP/IB Program Testing Updates - March 26, 2020

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TEA continues to work with the Office of the Governor, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to coordinate and plan the state's response to COVID-19. In addition, we are working with the College Board, ACT, Inc., and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to mitigate the impact on our many Texas students participating in these programs. This letter contains updates on the House Bill 3 (HB 3) SAT, ACT, TSIA and Industry-Based Certification (IBC) testing and reimbursements as well as Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) testing.

Test Cancellations

SAT/ACT

TEA released a [To The Administrator Addressed letter](#) on 3/19/2020 with **initial** information regarding test cancellations and rescheduling, **current** links to each vendor's webpages, and resources for educators and families to access.

At this time, the College Board and ACT, Inc. are suspending national testing administration until June and are assessing guidance for district and school day administration. Registered students whose tests have been cancelled will receive a refund.

TEA would like to encourage students, parents, and educators to utilize each vendor's FREE K-12 resource, [Khan Academy](#) & [ACT Academy](#), to support remote learning, preparation, and instruction at this time.

Texas Success Initiative Assessment

As of 3/25/20, the College Board's online proctoring partner is suspending its live remote proctoring services until further notice. College Board encourages questions and updates to be directed to [your ACCUPLACER Outreach representative](#).

Additionally, the TSIA2 release date is postponed to 9/28/20.

IB Examinations

May 2020 IB examinations will not be administered

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) has canceled the 2020 administration of IB exams and will move forward with a plan to award a Diploma or a Course Certificate for the work students have done throughout their program.

The IBO will be taking the following actions for the 2020 May Examination session:

- The May 2020 examinations scheduled April 30 through May 22, for Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme candidates will no longer be held.

- Depending on their registrations, the student will be awarded a Diploma or a Course Certificate which reflects their standard of work. This is based on the student's coursework and the established assessment expertise, rigor and quality control already built into the programmes.

IBO will send full details and FAQs to IB schools by March 27, 2020. FAQs regarding testing cancellation may be found on IBO's [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) update page](#). Information regarding the Middle Years Programme eAssessment examinations (scheduled for May 11-22) will be provided on that website the first week of April.

Testing Updates

Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations Modified and Administered Online

May 2020 AP exams will be modified and administered online at home

- For the 2019–2020 exam administration **only**, students may take a 45-minute online free-response exam at home. Educator-led development committees are currently selecting the exam questions that will be administered. A blueprint of each exam can be found on [the College Boards Coronavirus updates webpage](#).
- **The College Board has provided** free remote learning resources to help students prepare for an AP exam with [live and on-demand](#) AP courses and review sessions.
- Students will be able to take these streamlined exams on any device they have access such as: computer, tablet, or smartphone.
- Students who need mobile tools or connectivity may [reach out directly to the College Board](#).
- The exam will only include topics and skills most AP teachers and students covered in class by early March.
- Students are encouraged to wait closer to the test date to decide whether to take the AP exam, however, **any student already registered for an exam may choose to cancel at no charge**.

HB 3 College Preparation Assessment Reimbursements

SAT/ACT

TEA recognizes that many students' plans to take the SAT and/or the ACT have been postponed until the summer or fall administrations. Considering this rapidly evolving situation, TEA is expanding the college preparation assessment reimbursements to include summer testing administrations.

TSIA

TEA recognizes that many students' plans to take the TSIA have either changed to an online test administration at a higher cost (from 3/19/20 to 3/25/20) or have been postponed. TEA will reimburse districts for **both** the **TSIA test fee** and the any **proctor fees** for the online version of the TSIA for those students impacted and will also include summer testing administrations for reimbursement.

Eligible Students for Reimbursement

- **Seniors** who take either the SAT, ACT, or TSIA from **September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020** are eligible for reimbursement.

- **Juniors** who take either the SAT, ACT, or TSIA from **January 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020** are eligible for reimbursement.

As a reminder, TEA will reimburse the highest cost exam to the district. An updated FAQ with additional guidance will be posted on the [College Preparation Assessment Reimbursement webpage](#) as new information becomes available.

HB 3 IBC Reimbursements

Similarly, districts can get reimbursements for IBCs earned from September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020. IBCs earned from September 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020 will be reported in Summer Submission 3. IBCs earned from June 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020 will be reported in Fall Submission 1. We have released the first version of the IBC reimbursement [FAQ](#) and will provide additional guidance on the [webpage](#) as they come.

Additional Information

TEA has established a [COVID-19 website](#) as a central source for information to school districts. Additional resources will continue to be added on a regular basis. Please use this website as your initial source for information from TEA.

Program updates are posted often; stay informed by visiting the [Advanced Academics website](#). For additional questions regarding SAT/ACT, TSIA, AP and IB testing please contact Advanced Academics at advancedacademics@tea.texas.gov.

TEA working rapidly for the best solutions to allow our Texas students to continue to pursue and participate in these programs and continue in their educational journey. Thank you for all you do for the school children of Texas.