

## Chapter 101. Assessment

### Subchapter EE. Commissioner's Rules Concerning the Statewide Testing Calendar and UIL Participation

#### §101.5001. Testing Calendar.

- (a) In accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC), §33.0812, the commissioner of education shall determine the school week during the school year in which the primary administrations of assessment instruments are administered. The primary administrations of assessments occur during the school week when both the paper and online assessments are scheduled for the state. For the purpose of scheduling assessment instruments during the primary administration week under TEC, §39.023(a) and (c), the first instructional day of a week is Monday. The commissioner may provide local education agencies (LEAs) an optional extension of assessment administrations for online testing. An LEA may choose the optional extension by registering to test online. Once registered, the LEA may administer online assessments on any school day during the extended testing window.
- (b) Through publication on the Texas Education Agency website, the commissioner shall provide the University Interscholastic League (UIL) with a three-year calendar of dates, beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, reserved for testing on or before May 1 of the year preceding the three-year cycle of reserved testing dates.
- (c) The commissioner may change the dates reserved for testing as necessary. The commissioner shall notify the UIL of any changes to the schedule for the primary administrations of the statewide assessments.
- (d) If a change to the primary administration testing calendar creates a scheduling conflict between a UIL area, regional, or state competition and the statewide assessments, the commissioner shall determine whether those UIL events must be cancelled or rescheduled.

*Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §101.5001 issued under Texas Education Code, §33.0812 and §39.023(c-3).*

*Source: The provisions of this §101.5001 adopted to be effective April 3, 2006, 31 TexReg 2858; amended to be effective November 10, 2019, 44 TexReg 6879; amended to be effective October 13, 2020, 45 TexReg 7249.*

#### §101.5003. Alternate Test Dates.

- (a) The commissioner of education shall consider requests from districts or campuses for alternate test dates on a case-by-case basis. Alternate test dates will only be allowed if the campus or district is closed on the day on which testing is scheduled or if there is an exceptional circumstance as defined under this section that may affect a district's or campus' ability to administer an assessment or the students' performance on an assessment.
- (b) For the purposes of this section, exceptional circumstances include but are not limited to the following:
  - (1) inclement weather or natural disasters that would cause a district or a campus to be closed or which would cause a small percentage of students to be in attendance on the day testing is scheduled;
  - (2) health epidemics that result in a large number of students being absent on the day of testing;
  - (3) death of a student or school official that may impact student performance; and
  - (4) sudden emergencies that occur on the day of testing or shortly before testing that may inhibit students from completing the assessments, such as a fire on campus, a bomb threat, an extended power outage, or a water main break.
- (c) If an alternate test date for the primary test administration is approved, the commissioner may prohibit the district or campus from participating in UIL competitions on the new test date if that is determined to be in the best interest of the district, campus, and students.

**§101.EE**

**Commissioner's Rules Concerning the Statewide Testing Calendar and UIL Participation**

*Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §101.5003 issued under Texas Education Code, §33.0812.*

*Source: The provisions of this §101.5003 adopted to be effective April 3, 2006, 31 TexReg 2858.*