

Updated as of 05/26/20

1. If a student is a senior but still must complete one or more EOC assessments to graduate, will he/she be able to graduate?

Most students have already completed courses that have corresponding EOC assessments before their senior year. Normally, a student who has not passed up to two of his or her required STAAR EOC assessments may graduate through the individual graduation committee (IGC) process. For students who are still working to meet assessment graduation requirements as seniors in the 2019–2020 school year, required performance on academic assessments to graduate under TEC, §28.025(c) and §39.025(a) is being waived for spring 2020. Effectively, this means that current seniors may graduate through the IGC process regardless of the number of EOC assessments they still need to pass.

2. If a student is not graduating this year and still has one or more EOC assessments required to graduate, how will that affect the student’s credit in the upcoming year?

The required performance on academic assessments under TEC, §28.025(c) and §39.025(a) is being waived for spring 2020 only. This means:

- If the student is not graduating and is currently enrolled in an EOC course, the EOC passing requirement will be waived if the student receives credit for that course.
- If the student is not graduating and has an outstanding EOC assessment that they have not passed from a previous year, they will still need to retake and pass that EOC assessment prior to graduation.

3. What assessments have been cancelled for this school year?

Academic assessment requirements are suspended for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year. This includes all STAAR assessments including tests for grades 3-8, end-of-course (EOC) assessments, and STAAR Alternate 2 tests.

UPDATED
05/26/20

4. Will schools and districts be held to federal testing and accountability requirements?

No, TEA has received approval from the United States Department of Education (USDE) to waive statewide assessment and accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for the 2019–2020 school year.

UPDATED
05/26/20

5. Will the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) and TELPAS Alternate administration window be extended?

The Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) and TELPAS Alternate administration windows are currently open and are being extended to remain open through May 29, 2020, for a district to complete optionally if it chooses. Scoring data will be provided for each TELPAS domain a student completes. For information on exit criteria for English learners this year, refer to the *English Learner Guidance (TELPAS and LPAC)* document on the TEA [COVID-19](#) webpage.

6. How will the timelines for Interim Assessments be adjusted?

Both testing windows for the [STAAR Interim Assessments](#) are currently open and will continue to be open through May 29, 2020 for districts to use as a resource to monitor student progress. As a reminder, the interim assessments are optional, are available at no cost to districts and charter schools, they are not tied to accountability, and results are not reported to TEA.

UPDATED
05/26/20

7. Given the absence of STAAR, what other opportunities do I have for progress monitoring?

The agency has made available Optional End of Year Assessments to use at the end of the 2019-20 school year (and in summer school). The agency will also make available Optional Beginning of Year Assessments for the start of the 2020-21 school year. These tools can complement the tools that local districts have developed or are planning to develop on their own.

UPDATED
05/26/20

8. STAAR EOC Assessment Guidance

A. For graduating seniors in the 2019–2020 school year, including seniors graduating in summer 2020:

Scenario	Passed all end-of-course (EOC) assessments?	Currently enrolled in one or more courses with corresponding EOC assessment?	Path to Graduation
1	Yes	No, because they took and passed all those courses previously	Districts must ensure the student has met all other graduation requirements under Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.025(c), including successfully completing curriculum requirements or successfully completing an individualized education program.

2	No	Yes, enrolled as of spring 2020 (including students repeating the course due to previously not passing)	<p>The EOC assessment graduation requirement is waived for the course in which the student is currently enrolled if the student earns course credit this school year, including summer 2020. The student will need to complete the individual graduation committee (IGC) process for each of the remaining EOC assessments not passed (regardless of the number), and the district will need to determine if the student has met all other graduation requirements under TEC, §28.025(c), including successfully completing curriculum requirements or successfully completing an individualized education program. For these students, enter the code “2020 Waived” as the STAAR performance level on the transcript.</p> <p>If the student does not earn course credit this school year (including summer 2020) and has to repeat the course, the student will be required to pass the corresponding EOC assessment to meet assessment graduation requirements. The “2020 Waived” code does not apply to these students.</p>
3	No	No	<p>The student will need to complete the IGC process for each EOC assessment not passed (regardless of the number), and the district will need to determine if the student has met all other graduation requirements under TEC, §28.025(c), including successfully completing curriculum requirements or successfully completing an individualized education program. The “2020 Waived” code does not apply to these students.</p>
4	Yes	Yes, because they did not pass course previously but passed EOC assessment	<p>Districts must ensure the student has met all other graduation requirements under TEC, §28.025(c).</p>

B. For former students (from previous graduating classes) who have NOT met all their STAAR assessment graduation requirements, regardless of how many assessments they have left to pass:

Scenario	Passed all EOC assessments?	Currently enrolled in one or more courses with corresponding EOC assessment?	Path to Graduation
1	No	No	The student will need to complete the IGC process for each of the remaining EOC assessments not passed (regardless of the number), and the district will need to determine if the former student has met all other graduation requirements under TEC, §28.025(c).
2	No	Yes	If the student is still enrolled in the district and receiving instruction, then he or she does not fall within this table. Refer to Table A.

C. For students who are enrolled in grade 11 or lower in spring 2020:

Scenario	Passed all EOC assessments?	Currently enrolled in one or more courses with corresponding EOC assessment?	Path to Graduation
1	No	Yes, enrolled as of spring 2020 (including students repeating the course due to previously not passing)	<p>The EOC assessment graduation requirement is waived for the course in which the student is currently enrolled if the student earns course credit this school year, including summer 2020. For these students, the waiver reduces the number of EOC assessments the student must pass to meet assessment graduation requirements. Enter the code “2020 Waived” as the STAAR performance level on the student’s transcript.</p> <p>If the student does not earn course credit this school year, including summer 2020, and must repeat the course, the student will be required to pass the corresponding EOC assessment to meet assessment graduation requirements. The “2020 Waived” code does not apply to these students.</p>

2	No	No, because they passed course but did not pass EOC assessment	The student is still required to pass the corresponding EOC assessment to meet assessment graduation requirements and will have future opportunities to meet this requirement (e.g., December 2020 STAAR administration).
3	No	No, has not yet enrolled in a course with corresponding EOC assessment	The student is required to take the corresponding EOC assessment when he or she is completing the course and must pass the assessment to meet graduation requirements.
4	Yes	Yes, did not pass course previously but passed EOC assessment	The student will need to retake the course to earn credit and successfully complete curriculum requirements.

9. Does EOC assessment guidance apply to students who take STAAR Alternate 2?

For all students receiving special education services, the admission, review, and dismissal committee will continue to make educational decisions, including graduation decisions and decisions related to required performance on academic assessments.

For all students who were scheduled to be administered a STAAR Alternate 2 EOC assessment in spring 2020, the assessment requirement is being waived. These students are not required to take the specific STAAR Alternate 2 EOC assessment in the future and are not responsible for passing the assessment to fulfill graduation requirements.

10. Does EOC assessment guidance apply to former students who had TAKS, TAAS, or TEAMS testing requirements?

No, former students who had TAKS, TAAS, or TEAMS testing requirements can pursue a Texas high school diploma through a district decision or alternate assessments. More information on these options is available on the TEA [TAKS](#) webpage.

11. Is a district required to provide students with accelerated instruction in the 2019–2020 school year?

Please refer to the *Grading Guidance and FAQ* document on the TEA [COVID-19](#) webpage.

12. What do we do if a student requires accelerated instruction and that accelerated instruction was not completed prior to school closure?

Please refer to the *Grading Guidance and FAQ* document on the TEA [COVID-19](#) webpage.

NEW
05/26/20

13. How should a district indicate on a transcript the lack of a STAAR score for a student for whom the EOC assessment requirement is waived for spring and summer 2020?

To permit schools to document the waived STAAR EOC assessment requirement on the student transcript or academic achievement record (AAR), a new code “**2020 Waived**” has been added to the STAAR performance level code table (TC31) in the Texas Records Exchange (TREx) system. Districts and charter schools must indicate on the transcript or in the AAR the “**2020 Waived**” code for students whom the STAAR EOC assessment requirement has been waived, in accordance with the assessment guidance charts above.

NEW
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14. What is the last date a student can receive the waiver for the STAAR EOC assessment requirements?

A student may receive the waiver for the STAAR EOC assessment requirement for courses completed with credit earned in spring or summer 2020. Once the 2020–2021 school year has begun for a student based on his or her district’s or charter school’s official start date (no later than August 24, 2020), the student is no longer eligible to receive the STAAR EOC assessment waiver.

NEW
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15. Are districts and charter schools still required to provide early notice to parents or guardians of grade 4 and grade 7 students identified to be at risk of failure on the first administration of the assessment required for grade advancement next year?

Yes, the superintendent must establish the instruments and procedures to be used to make this determination. If a district or charter school does not have sufficient information to make a determination about a student’s risk of failure, the school district or charter should request a waiver of the requirement from the Commissioner. Instructions for submitting a waiver request to the Commissioner can be found on the *Instructions for Submitting a Waiver for the Early Notice to Parents or Guardians Requirement* document on the TEA [COVID-19](#) webpage.