

1701 North Congress Avenue • Austin, Texas 78701-1494 • 512 463-9734 • 512 463-9838 FAX • tea.texas.gov

January 12, 2023

Subject: Guidance on STAAR and UIL Scheduling Conflicts

To the Regional and District Testing Coordinator Addressed:

The purpose of this communication is to provide guidance to Texas public school districts and openenrollment charter schools regarding scheduling conflicts between spring 2023 State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR<sup>®</sup>) testing windows and University Interscholastic League (UIL) postseason activities.

In response to districts' concerns regarding scheduling conflicts arising from changes made to the <u>2022–</u> <u>2023 Student Assessment Testing Calendar</u> in March 2022, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and UIL have collaborated to address these concerns. Pursuant to Title 19, Texas Administrative Code, §101.5001(d), the Commissioner of Education has determined that UIL postseason contests for spring 2023 need not be canceled or rescheduled. With this allowance for UIL postseason activities during the primary STAAR testing weeks, please refer to the guidance below when scheduling these events for spring 2023.

This year there is a two-week testing window for each STAAR content-area grouping. The primary testing week is week 1 of each two-week testing window. For UIL activities affecting high school testing schedules, STAAR end-of-course assessment testing windows are:

- April 18–Apr 28 for English I and English II
- April 25–May 5 for Biology and U.S. History
- May 2–May 12 for Algebra I

**For UIL activities that are already scheduled**, districts and campuses that are participating in the specific UIL activity may:

- move all testing to the second week of the testing window, if many students are involved in the UIL activity, or
- administer make-up tests later in the testing window to individual students who participate in the UIL activity.

**For UIL activities that have yet to be scheduled**, districts and campuses that are participating in the specific UIL activity should collaborate and follow the guidance below to determine the best dates.

- Avoid scheduling the UIL activity during the primary testing weeks, if possible.
  - Avoid scheduling English I and English II tests April 18–21; instead, schedule these tests April 24–28.
  - Avoid scheduling Biology and U.S. History tests April 25–28; instead, schedule these tests May 1–5.

- Avoid scheduling Algebra I May 2–5; instead, schedule this test May 8–12.
- If UIL activities must be scheduled during the primary testing weeks, schedule testing for earlier in the week and UIL activities for later in the week, as follows.
  - Schedule English I and English II for April 18 and 19 and UIL activities for April 20 and 21.
  - Schedule Biology and U.S. History for April 25 and 26 and UIL activities for April 27 and 28.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Schedule Algebra I for May 2 and UIL activities for May 3, 4, and 5.
- In addition, a district or campus may schedule tests on Monday of a primary week if it has a significant administrative burden due to specific local conditions and files a <u>Monday Testing</u> <u>Notice</u> with TEA. Schedule testing for earlier in the week and UIL activities for later in the week, as follows.
  - Schedule English I and English II for April 17 and 18 and UIL activities for April 19, 20, and 21.
  - Schedule Biology and U.S. History for April 24 and 25 and UIL activities for April 26, 27, and 28.
  - Schedule Algebra I for May 1 and UIL activities for May 2, 3, 4, and 5.

TEA and UIL hope this guidance helps resolve any scheduling conflicts between STAAR administrations and UIL postseason activities this spring.

For more specific information about scheduling STAAR testing windows, refer to the <u>District and Campus</u> <u>Coordinator Resources</u>. If you have additional questions, contact TEA using the Student Assessment <u>Help</u> <u>Desk</u> or UIL at (512) 471-5883.

Texas Education Agency Student Assessment Division (512) 463-9536