

Special Paper Administration of an Online Test Policy

Starting December 2022, all State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) assessments—grades 3–8 assessments, end-of-course (EOC) assessments, and Spanish assessments, including accommodated versions—will be administered online. Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) listening and speaking and reading assessments will continue to be administered online.

Requests for a special administration of an online assessment (e.g., paper version of STAAR, holistic assessment of TELPAS listening and speaking in grades 2–12) should be submitted only if a required accommodation documented in the student’s individualized education program (IEP), individual accommodation plan (IAP), or 504 paperwork cannot be delivered in an online format. Before requesting a paper administration, careful consideration should be given to whether the paper mode offers the necessary supports to allow the student to successfully demonstrate his or her understanding of the tested content. If the student has previous experience receiving instruction or taking assessments online (e.g., STAAR Interim Assessments), it may be more appropriate to maintain consistency and provide the student with an online administration. Requests for a special administration will only be approved if the rationale includes evidence that a paper administration is necessary due to the student’s inability to access the assessment or accommodations in an online format.

Additionally, requests for a special administration of an online assessment can be submitted for students whose educational placement does not permit online access. Requests for a special administration will only be approved if the rationale includes evidence that a paper administration is necessary due to students’ inability to access the online assessment. Requests to test on paper based on parent or student preference will not be granted.

If a student receives a special administration of an online assessment, then the student’s responses or ratings must be entered into the online testing system by authorized school personnel.