

August 25, 2025

Subject: Texas Assessment Program Updates for the 2025–2026 School Year

To the Regional and District Testing Coordinators Addressed:

The purpose of this communication is to inform Texas school systems about updates to the Texas Assessment Program for the 2025–26 school year. These updates are based on stakeholder feedback and Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI) system updates.

Implementation of the New Science TEKS in STAAR

The new Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for science were adopted by the State Board of Education in 2021 and implemented into classrooms starting with the 2023–24 school year. The new science TEKS will be fully implemented into the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) science assessments beginning in spring 2026. The assessed curriculum documents, blueprints, and middle school reference materials that were posted on January 15, 2025, have been finalized and are available on the [STAAR Science Resources](#) web page. Transition year documents remain in effect for the December 2025 STAAR Biology administration and will be removed from the web page after that administration. Due to the shorter STAAR science blueprints, science strand information will not be provided in the Centralized Reporting System (CRS) or on summary reports or student report cards beginning in spring 2026.

Reporting Updates

To assist educators, parents, students, and other stakeholders in understanding reporting for the Texas Assessment Program, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has updated the terminology used for the three phases of reporting events based on input received.



Assessment Results: This first round of reporting provides students' assessment results to be used for student-level decisions, such as determining whether accelerated instruction is required or whether graduation requirements have been met.



Administration Reports for Data Verification: This second round of reporting provides administration reports to be used to identify data that need to be corrected during the data verification window.



Final Administration Reports for Accountability: This third round of reporting provides final administration reports that reflect changes made during the data verification window and are used for accountability.

Assessment results, administration reports for data verification, and final administration reports for accountability are provided for each administration according to the reporting dates on the [2025–2026 Student Assessment Testing Calendar](#) and on the [Reporting for the Texas Assessment Program](#) document. Refer to the [Reporting](#) section of the *District and Campus Coordinator Resources* for more information.

Student Test Tickets

District testing personnel may print student test tickets for the first assessment administered in the school year and reuse the test tickets throughout the school year. However, student test tickets must be stored in a secure location when not used for testing because they contain confidential, personally identifiable information. All test tickets not being kept for reuse must be destroyed after each test administration; otherwise, they must be destroyed at the end of the school year.

Systems Updates

The following enhancements have been made to Texas Assessment Program systems:

- Based on input from educators, the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) has been updated to include a new user interface that improves navigation and streamlines tasks. Refer to the TIDE training modules in the Learning Management System (LMS) for more information.
- A number of updates have been made to the Student Interface of the Test Delivery System (TDS), including easier distinction between the operational and practice sites, independent system settings adjustments, and other updated tool functionality.
- CRS has been updated to allow users to download constructed responses at the roster, campus, or district level and receive a report in PDF format starting with the spring 2026 administration of STAAR.
- The Data Entry Interface (DEI) has been renamed as the Response Entry system (RE).

Refer to the [Updates for the 2025–2026 School Year](#) page of the *Coordinator Resources* or the What's New for the 2025–2026 School Year training module in LMS for more information.

STAAR Interim Assessments

To better align with instructional practices, TEA has made a few minor changes in policies for STAAR Interim Assessments. Students can take mathematics and reading language arts STAAR Interim Assessments only once per testing window. Students can take a science or social studies interim assessment twice per testing window; students who have completed a Window 2 assessment must wait at least 60 days before being administered the assessment a second time. If a student needs to retake an interim assessment, the test administrator must submit an appeal request via TIDE.

Texas Through-year Assessment Pilot

There will be no test administrations for the Texas Through-year Assessment Pilot (TTAP) during the 2025–26 school year.

For more information about the updates for this school year, refer to the [Updates](#) section of the *Coordinator Resources*. If you have questions about the updates or about the Texas Assessment Program, contact TEA using the Student Assessment [Help Desk](#).



Student Assessment Division
Office of Analytics, Assessment, and Reporting
(512) 463-9536
[Student Assessment Help Desk](#)
TEA.Texas.gov/student-assessment