

Middle School Science STAAR Blueprint

Administered in Grade 8

Effective beginning with the 2025-2026 school year

Strand	Number of Questions	Number of Points
Matter and Energy	5–7	6–9
Force, Motion, and Energy	6–8	7–10
Earth and Space	7–9	8–12
Organisms and Environments	7–9	8–12
Total	28–30	35

Question Types by Point Value	Number or Questions	Number of Points
1–point questions (multiple choice and non–multiple choice)	21–25	21–25
2–point questions (non–multiple choice)	5–7	10–14
Total	28–30	35

Sub-scores will not be reported for the Strands.

<u>Curriculum</u>: <u>All student expectations</u> are required to be taught in their entirety for a grade level or course. The <u>Assessed Curriculum document</u> outlines the student expectations that are eligible to be assessed on the middle school grade—band science state summative assessment administered in grade 8.

<u>Question types</u>: Drag and drop, hot spot, inline choice, match table grid, multipart, multiple choice, multiselect, short constructed response (SCR), text entry, and <u>cluster question sets</u>. Cluster question sets are composed of a stimulus (scenario with a graphic and/or data display) and 3–5 questions. Each question in the cluster counts as a separate question in the blueprint and is scored independently from other questions in the cluster. <u>Practice Test site</u>

<u>Development Process</u>: STAAR questions go through a rigorous development and review process to ensure they accurately measure student knowledge. Every question on STAAR is created for Texas students with the review and approval of Texas educators. Texas educators can <u>apply to participate</u> on the <u>TexasAssessment.gov</u> website.

Step 1: Questions are written to align with the TEKS, which describe what students should know and be able to do in the middle school science grade band.



Step 2: Groups of Texas educators review and approve questions for the middle school science grade band to ensure questions are grade—level appropriate, align with the TEKS, unbiased, and accessible to all students.



Step 3: Questions are tested out by Texas students but do not count towards their scores to confirm that the questions are unbiased and accurate. These are called field—test questions.



Step 4: Questions that pass all previous steps can be selected for an operational STAAR test form to provide educators and families with information to support teaching and learning.

STAAR Science Resources

STAAR Resources for all Assessments