

November 25, 2024

Subject: Notice of Texas' Waiver Request for STAAR Alternate 2 Participation

To the Regional and District Staff Addressed:

The purpose of this communication is to provide notification that the Texas Education Agency (TEA) is requesting a waiver of the federal cap on the number of students who can be assessed with the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) Alternate 2. Prior to submitting the waiver request to the United States Department of Education (USDE), the draft waiver, *2024–2025 Texas One Percent Cap Waiver Request*, is available for public comment and posted on the [STAAR Alternate 2 Resources](#) webpage.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), section 1111(b)(2)(D)(i)(I) prohibits a state from testing more than one percent of its students statewide with an alternate assessment aligned with alternate academic achievement standards (i.e., STAAR Alternate 2). The USDE allows states who anticipate exceeding the one percent cap to submit a waiver request. Texas is requesting a waiver from the USDE to exceed the one percent threshold for the 2024–2025 school year.

TEA is accepting public comments regarding the need to request a waiver to exceed the one percent statewide threshold. Please provide comments via email to assessmentwaiver@tea.texas.gov. The public comment period begins Monday, November 25, 2024, and ends **Friday, December 13, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. (CT)**.

Please forward this notification to all interested persons. If you have questions about the information in this communication, submit your inquiries to TEA using the [Student Assessment Help Desk](#).

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