

*2014–2015*

# Interpreting Assessment Reports

TEXAS STUDENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM



State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness  
End-of-Course (STAAR EOC)

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness  
Alternate 2 (STAAR Alternate 2)

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)

Questions concerning this guide should be directed to  
Texas Education Agency's Student Assessment Division at 512-463-9536.

# Contents

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General Information ..... 1.1

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)..... 2.1

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness End-of-Course  
(STAAR EOC) ..... 3.1

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness Alternate 2 (STAAR Alternate 2)..... 4.1

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)..... 5.1

Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)..... 6.1

# General Information

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This guide provides information about interpreting the results of the Texas Student Assessment Program, which includes:

- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness STAAR®
- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness End-of-Course (STAAR EOC)
- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness Alternate 2 (STAAR Alternate 2)
- Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)
- Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)

The guide also displays and explains examples of standard and optional assessment reports as well as assists campus personnel in understanding and interpreting student performance data, as required by Section 39.030(b) of the Texas Education Code.

To facilitate online use of this manual, click on the blue-colored text to access the identified website.

## Overview of Statewide Student Assessment in Texas

### STAAR

Beginning in spring 2012 STAAR replaced TAKS. At grades 3–8, students are assessed in mathematics and reading. Students are also assessed in writing at grades 4 and 7, science at grades 5 and 8, and social studies at grade 8. Spanish-version STAAR assessments are administered in reading and mathematics at grades 3–5, in writing at grade 4, and in science at grade 5.

State legislation phases out high school TAKS and replaces them with the STAAR EOC assessments beginning in the 2011–2012 school year. Students first enrolled in grade 9 or below in the 2011–2012 school year are required to take the STAAR EOC assessments as part of their graduation requirement and will no longer take TAKS.

The five end-of-course (EOC) assessments are Algebra I, English I, English II, biology, and U.S. history.

### STAAR Spanish

Spanish versions of STAAR, called STAAR Spanish, are available at grades 3–5 for eligible English language learners (ELLs) in the same grades and subject areas assessed by the English versions. ELLs not eligible for STAAR Spanish may be provided allowable linguistic accommodations on other STAAR assessments.

## STAAR L

Linguistically accommodated versions of STAAR, called STAAR L, are available for eligible ELLs in grades 3–8 and high school in mathematics, science, and social studies. ELLs not eligible for STAAR L may be provided allowable linguistic accommodations on other STAAR assessments.

## STAAR A

STAAR A is an online accommodated version of STAAR administered to eligible students enrolled in grades 3–8 and high school. This assessment provides embedded supports designed to help students with disabilities access the content being assessed. STAAR A is available beginning in spring 2015 for students that meet eligibility requirements.

## STAAR Alternate 2

House Bill 5, passed by the 83rd Texas Legislature in May 2013, required a redesign of STAAR Alternate. The redesigned assessment, STAAR Alternate 2, is designed for the purpose of assessing students in grades 3–8 and high school who have significant cognitive disabilities and are served by special education. STAAR Alternate 2 is available beginning in spring 2015 for students that meet eligibility requirements.

## TELPAS

TELPAS fulfills federal requirements for assessing the English language proficiency of ELLs in kindergarten through grade 12. TELPAS assesses second language development in the domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Multiple-choice assessments are used to assess reading in grades 2–12. For the other grades and domains, holistically rated assessments based on ongoing classroom observations and written student work are used. TELPAS reports student performance in terms of four English language proficiency levels: beginning, intermediate, advanced, and advanced high. The TELPAS results are used in several state and federal accountability and performance-based monitoring indicators.

## TAKS

Students first enrolled in grade 9 prior to the 2011–2012 school year have TAKS as their graduation requirement. Students with TAKS as their graduation requirement are eligible to take the TAKS exit level assessments as soon as they are classified as 11th graders.



For more information about the Texas state assessments, visit TEA's Student Assessment Division website at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/>.

2014 STAAR Assessments			
Enrolled Grade	Subjects Assessed	Assessment Mode	Other Assessments Available
Grade 3	mathematics and reading	paper (STAAR L and STAAR A are online)	STAAR Spanish for both subjects STAAR L for mathematics STAAR A for both subjects STAAR Alternate 2 for both subjects
Grade 4	writing, mathematics, and reading	paper (STAAR L and STAAR A are online)	STAAR Spanish for all subjects STAAR L for mathematics STAAR A for all subjects STAAR Alternate 2 for all subjects
Grade 5	mathematics, reading, and science	paper (STAAR L and STAAR A are online)	STAAR Spanish for all subjects STAAR L for mathematics and science STAAR A for all subjects STAAR Alternate 2 for all subjects
Grade 6	mathematics and reading	paper (STAAR L and STAAR A are online)	STAAR L for mathematics STAAR A for both subjects STAAR Alternate 2 for both subjects
Grade 7	writing, mathematics, and reading	paper (STAAR L and STAAR A are online)	STAAR L for mathematics STAAR A for all subjects STAAR Alternate 2 for all subjects
Grade 8	mathematics, reading, science, and social studies	paper (STAAR L and STAAR A are online)	STAAR L for mathematics, science, and social studies STAAR A for all subjects STAAR Alternate 2 for all subjects
End-of-Course	Only for courses in which a student is enrolled: Algebra I, English I, English II, biology, and U.S. history.	paper and/or online (STAAR L and STAAR A are online)	STAAR L for Algebra I, biology, and U.S. history STAAR A for Algebra I, English I, English II, biology, and U.S. history STAAR Alternate 2 for Algebra I, English I, English II, biology, and U.S. history

**NOTE:** Grades 3–8 mathematics will be administered as an operational field test in 2015.

TELPAS Assessments for the 2014–2015 School Year													
Enrolled Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>Multiple-Choice Assessments</b>			Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
<b>Holistically Rated Components</b>	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing	Listening Speaking Reading Writing

## Graduation and Promotion Requirements

In addition to taking the required courses, students must pass STAAR EOC assessments in Algebra I, English I, English II, biology, and U.S. history.

## Confidentiality and Reporting of Results

Section 39.030(b) of the Texas Education Code specifies the requirements for maintaining the confidentiality of individual student results and for reporting district-level and campus-level results. The results of individual student performance on academic skills assessment instruments administered under this subchapter are confidential and may be released only in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section 1232g). However, overall student performance data must be aggregated by ethnicity, sex, grade level, subject area, district, and campus and made available to the public, with appropriate interpretations, at regularly scheduled meetings of the board of trustees of each school district. The information may not contain the names of individual students or teachers.

Title 19 Texas Administrative Code, §101.81 requires school districts and charter schools to report results as follows:

- (a) The superintendent of a school district or chief administrative officer of each charter school shall accurately report all test results as required by the Texas Education Code (TEC), §39.030, with appropriate interpretations, to the school district board of trustees according to the schedule in the applicable test administration materials.
- (b) A school district, charter school, or private school that administers criterion-referenced tests under the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall notify each of its students and his or her parent or guardian of test results, observing confidentiality requirements in the TEC, §39.030.
- (c) All test results shall be included in each student's academic achievement record and shall be furnished for each student transferring to another school district, charter school, or private school.
- (d) The scoring contractor will provide school districts with the results of the machine-scorable assessments administered as required by the TEC, §28.0211, within a ten-day period following the receipt of the test materials from the school district or charter school.

Dates for notifying students and parents of assessment results for each administration are contained in the Calendar of Events Poster and the Calendar of Events in the [2015 District and Campus Coordinator Manual](#). The calendar and manual are provided to each district prior to the first administration.

# RESOURCES

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The Student Assessment Division makes many resources available to school districts and parents. The following is a list of resource pages on [TEA's Student Assessment Division website](#) that are useful for understanding the assessment process and reporting elements.

Resources	
Resource	Link
Accommodation Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/accommodations/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/accommodations/</a>
Explanation of Test Results	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/explainresults/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/explainresults/</a>
Information on State Assessments for English Language Learners	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/</a>
LPAC Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/lpac/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/lpac/</a>
Linguistic Accommodations for ELLs Participating in the STARR Program	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/</a>
Special Education Assessments	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/special-ed/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/special-ed/</a>
STAAR A Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/STAARA/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/STAARA/</a>
STAAR Alternate 2 Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/special-ed/staaralt/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/special-ed/staaralt/</a>
STAAR Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/</a>
TAKS Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/taks/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/taks/</a>
TELPAS Resources	<a href="http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/telpas/">http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/telpas/</a>