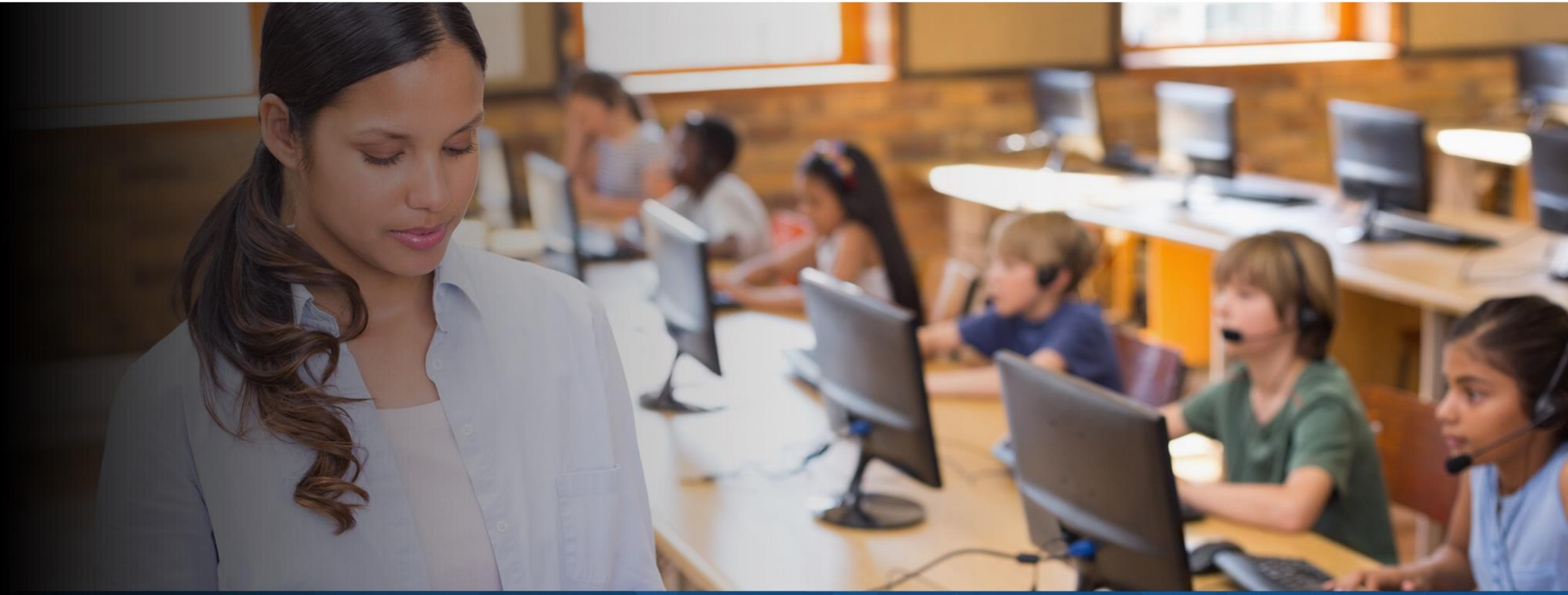


TEA Updates: Assessments for Special Populations

2023-2024 Accessibility Updates

TEA Texas Education Agency | TEXAS ASSESSMENT

Supporting Academic Achievement

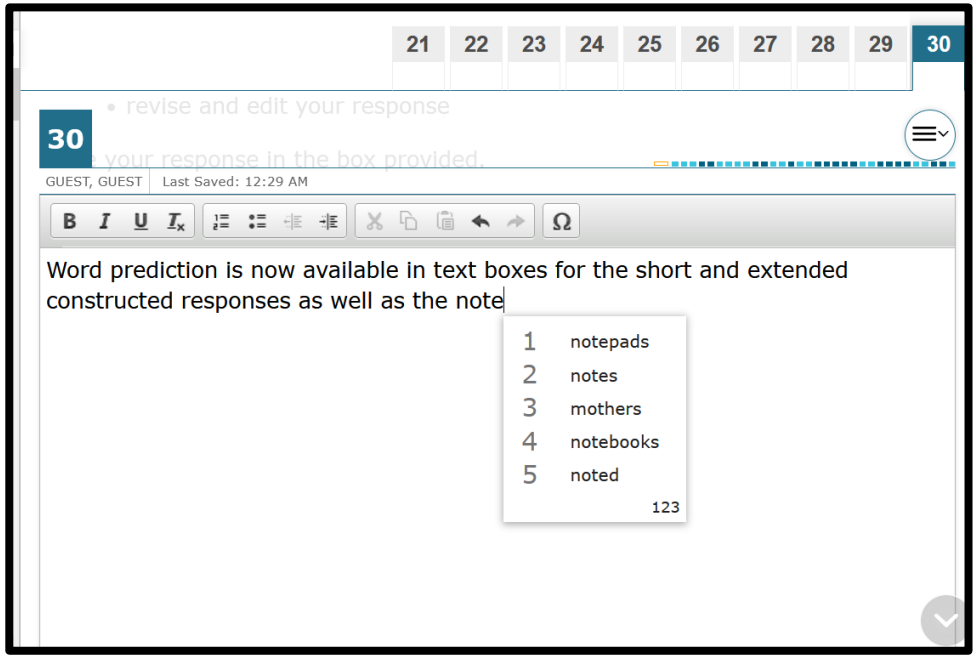
2023–2024 Accommodation Update

NEW

Word Prediction (Co:Writer) now an embedded tool in TDS

- For students eligible for word prediction under Spelling Assistance policy
- Students may still use a separate device or permissive mode to access word prediction software instead if that is what they are most comfortable with. (Technology guidelines must be followed.)

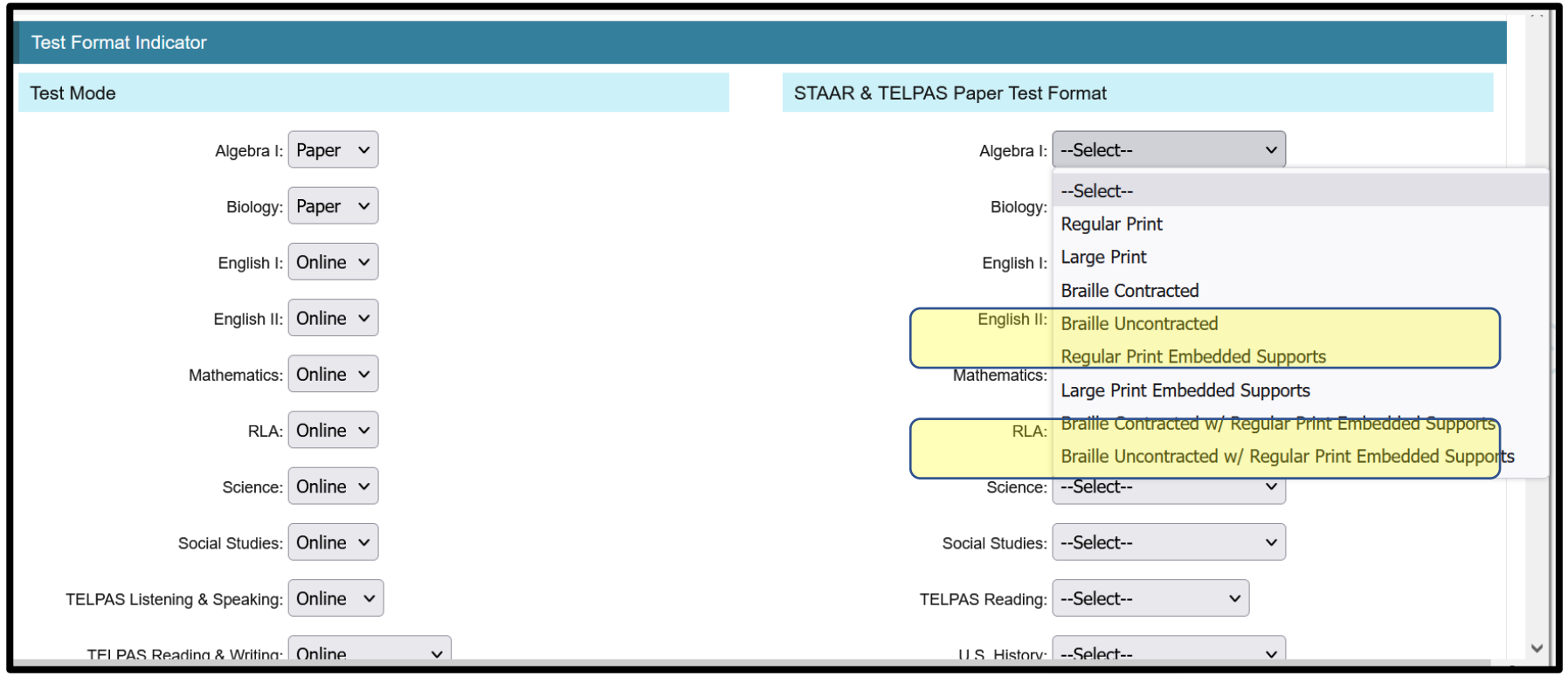
Test Attributes	Algebra I	Biology	English I	English II
Presentation	English	English	English	English
ASL Videos	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
Speech-to-Text		OFF	OFF	OFF
Basic TI Calculator				
Content and Language Supports	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
Spell Check		OFF	OFF	OFF
Auto Text-To-Speech	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
Permissive Mode	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
Word Prediction (Co:Writer)		OFF	ON	OFF
Proctored Administration	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF



2023–2024 Accommodation Updates

NEW

Ordering Paper Braille materials in TIDE is now a single step process for braille contracted or uncontracted with embedded supports.



NOTE: For students using online screen reader support for refreshable braille displays who also require a braille paper test, district testing personnel must contact Texas Testing Support at (833) 601-8821 to order paper copies of test booklets.

2023–2024 Accommodation Update

NEW

Test Attributes	Algebra I	Biology	English I	English II
Presentation	English	English	English	English
ASL Videos	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
Speech-to-Text		OFF	OFF	OFF
Basic TI Calculator				
Content and Language Supports	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
Spell Check		OFF	OFF	OFF
Auto Text-To-Speech	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
Permissive Mode	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
Word Prediction (Co:Writer)		OFF	OFF	OFF
Proctored Administration	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF

In TIDE, Spell Check is now specifically listed.

2023–2024 Accommodation Reminder

Reading Assistance for STAAR Grade 3 Math

Students who require reading assistance for the STAAR grade 3 online math administration must have Text-to-Speech (TTS) enabled to receive this support.

- Test administrators should **NOT** provide this support by reading test content from the screen.
- Prior to the administration, campuses should identify students who regularly request this support during classroom instruction so TTS can be enabled in advance of testing.
- During the school year, the student should practice receiving reading assistance via TTS so they can become familiar with using headphones, locating the tool, adjusting to a comfortable volume, selecting their preferred voice/rate/pitch, etc., prior to testing.
- If a student requests this support during testing, the test will need to paused, TTS enabled, and then the student may resume testing. TTS can stay enabled for the remainder of the test.

2023–2024 Accommodation Reminder

Reading Assistance for STAAR Grade 3 Math, cont.

Question: How can the TA support students who have TTS enabled the day of or during the test?

Answer: The TA may use the chart provided in the appendix A of the STAAR test administrator manual. If a student is having trouble locating the tool, the TA may point to the proper icon in the ICON column below. If a student asks how a tool or button functions, the test administrator may read aloud the information in the TEXT column. The information in this column may be read verbatim, paraphrased, or clarified as needed. **No additional prompting, demonstration, or explanation may be provided.**

Note: For students participating in a STAAR paper administration, the test administrator trained in oral administration will provide this support.

2023–2024 Accommodation Update

New

Reading Assistance for Constructed Response Questions

Students participating in a STAAR online administration who need test questions, including short and extended constructed response questions, to be read aloud must have Text-to-Speech (TTS) turned on to receive this support.

- Students **must** meet eligibility requirements for oral administration prior to the administration of the test.
- Test administrators should **not** be providing this support by reading the secure test content from the screen.

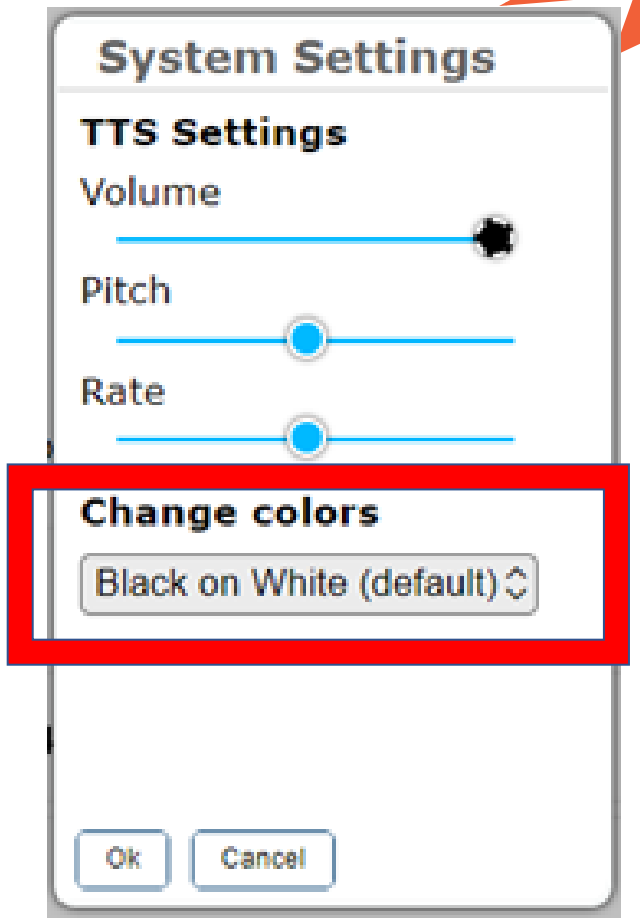
Note: For students participating in a STAAR paper administration, the test administrator trained in oral administration will provide this support.

TDS Enhancements—Color Choice Update

NEW

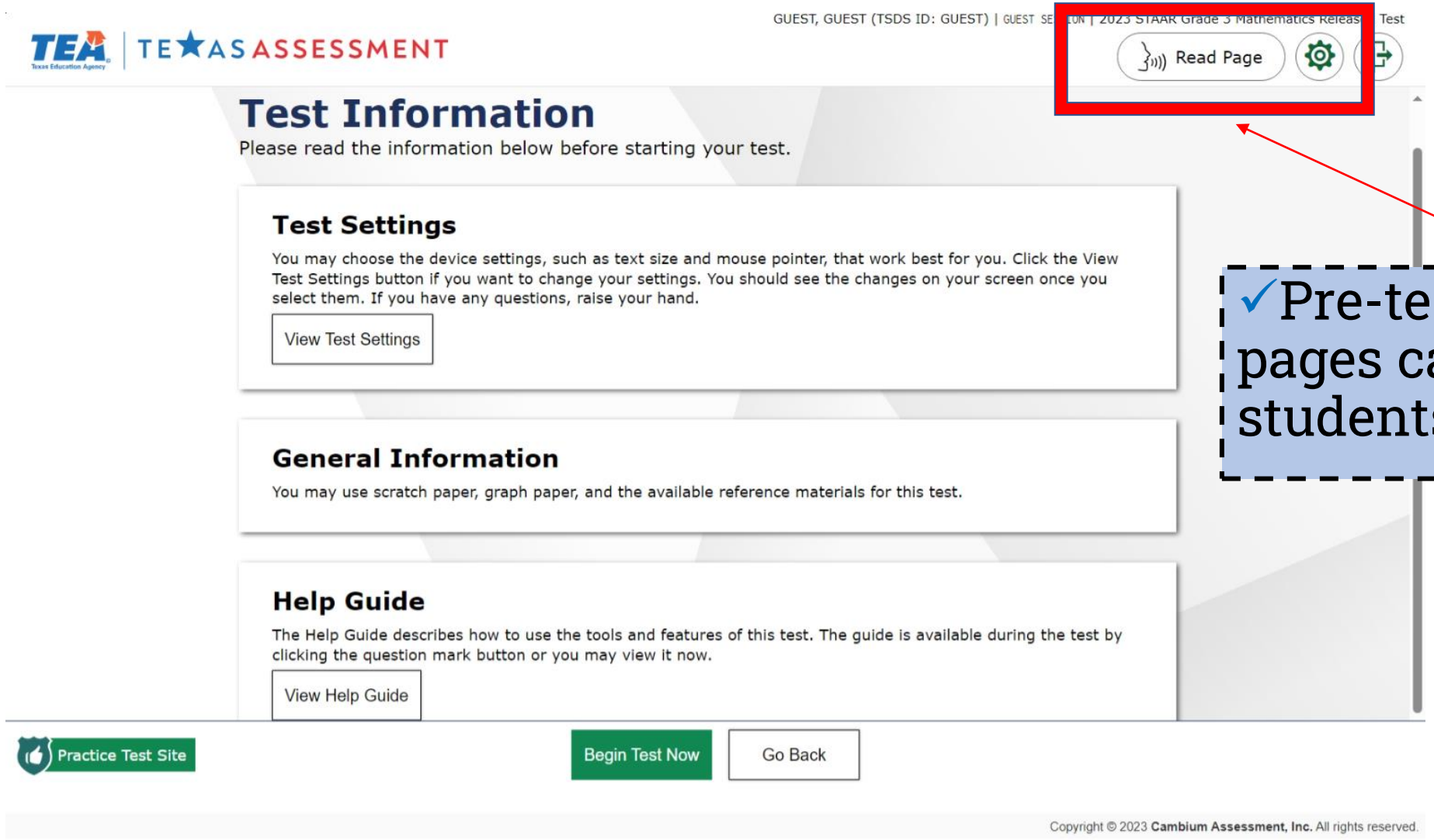
Color Choice has moved to inside the student interface

Students can control color without having to pause and log out.



TDS Enhancements—Text-to-Speech: Update

NEW



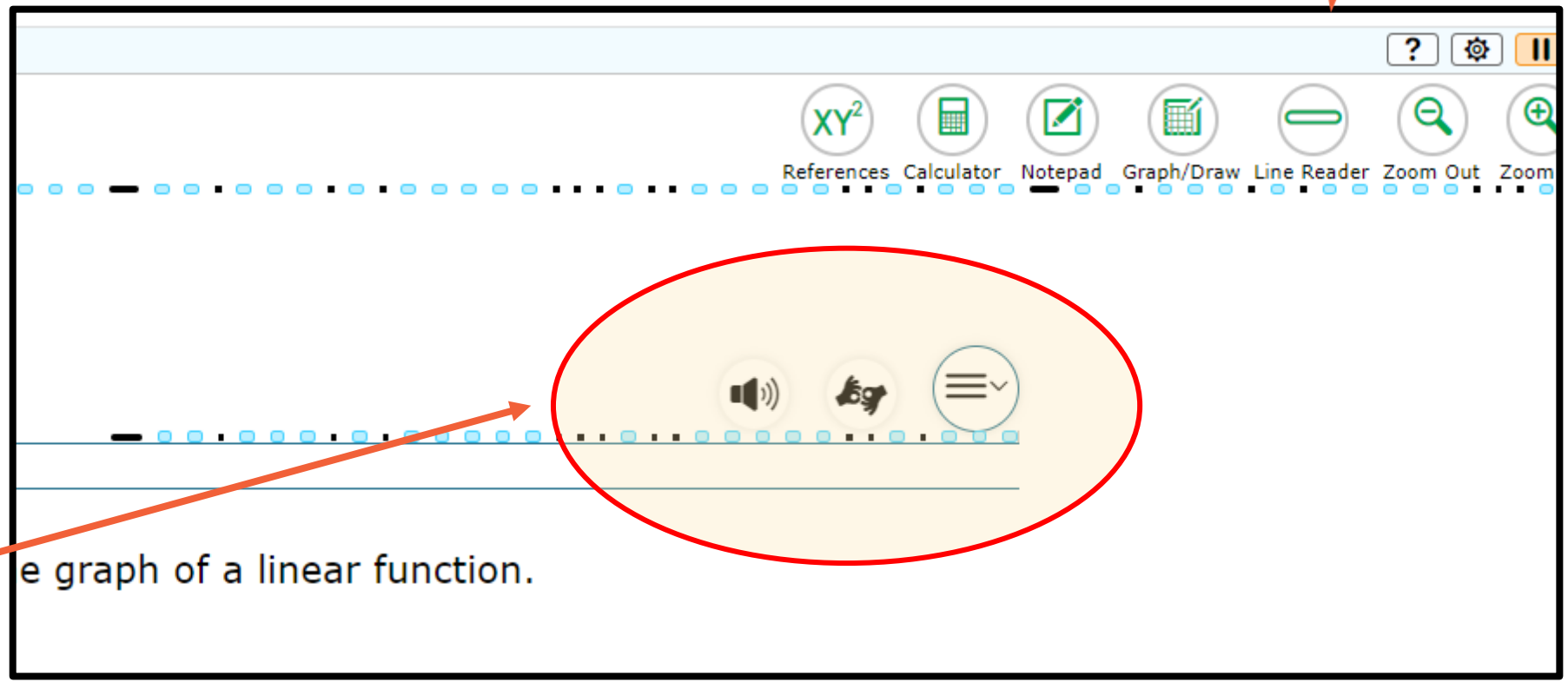
✓Pre-test instruction pages can now be read to students who have TTS.

TDS Enhancements— Text-to-Speech and ASL: Update

NEW

The Text-to-Speech and ASL tool buttons are now accessible outside of the drop-down item-level menu.

Students will now have direct access to these tools (eligibility and availability based).



STAAR and TELPAS Test Session Time Limit

- There is a maximum allowable testing time of seven hours for the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) and Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) assessments.

- Students are expected to complete each STAAR and TELPAS assessment in about three hours; students who are still testing after four hours should be consolidated into a general testing area to continue testing.

- Students must complete the assessment within the same school day, and no test session may exceed seven hours. Exceptions exist for eligible students who have an approved Extra Day accommodation.

House Bill 1225: Paper by Request

NEW

House Bill (HB) 1225 allows districts to provide paper administrations of STAAR to any student whose parent, guardian, or teacher requests it.

Students' responses for all paper administrations must be processed in DEI by 11:59 p.m. (CT) on the last day of each testing window.

The 3% paper by request numbers do not include the students who meet the criteria for a special paper administration.

There are no changes to the special administration of an online assessment request process from last year.

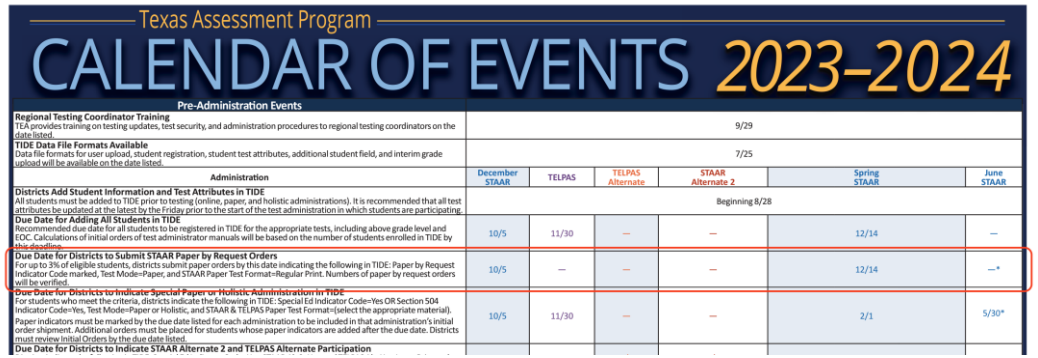
House Bill 1225: Paper by Request Registration

Requests must be submitted to the district by

- December 1 for spring administration

Request must be entered in TIDE by

- December 12 for spring administration



Texas Assessment Program

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023–2024

Pre-Administration Events						
Regional Testing Coordinator Training TEA provides training on testing updates, test security, and administration procedures to regional testing coordinators on the date listed.	9/29					
TIDE Data File Formats Available Data file formats for user upload, student registration, student test attributes, additional student field, and interim grade upload will be available on the date listed.	7/25					
Administration	December STAAR	TELPAS	TELPAS Alternate	STAAR Alternate 2	Spring STAAR	June STAAR
Districts Add Student Information and Test Attributes in TIDE All students must be added to TIDE prior to testing (online, paper, and holistic administrations). It is recommended that all test attributes be updated at the latest by the Friday prior to the start of the test administration in which students are participating.	Beginning 8/28					
Due Date for Adding All Students in TIDE Recommended due date for all students to be registered in TIDE for the appropriate tests, including above grade level and EOC. Calculations of initial orders of test administrator manuals will be based on the number of students enrolled in TIDE by this deadline.	10/5	11/30	—	—	12/14	—
Due Date for Districts to Submit STAAR Paper by Request Orders For up to 3% of eligible students, districts submit paper orders by this date indicating the following in TIDE: Paper by Request Indicator Code marked, Test Mode=Paper, and STAAR Paper Test Format=Regular Print. Numbers of paper by request orders will be verified.	10/5	—	—	—	12/14	—*
Due Date for Districts to Indicate Special Paper or Holistic Administration in TIDE For students who meet the criteria, districts indicate the following in TIDE: Special Ed Indicator Code=Yes OR Section 504 Indicator Code=Yes, Test Mode=Paper or Holistic, and STAAR & TELPAS Paper Test Format=(select the appropriate material). Paper indicators must be marked by the due date listed for each administration to be included in that administration's initial order shipment. Additional orders must be placed for students whose paper indicators are added after the due date. Districts must review Initial Orders by the due date listed.	10/5	11/30	—	—	2/1	5/30*
Due Date for Districts to Indicate STAAR Alternate 2 and TELPAS Alternate Participation						

The student's test record must have the Paper by Request field marked in TIDE.

The district will need to set the Test Mode field to "Paper" and select the specific paper test format (i.e., regular print) in the Paper Test Format field.

House Bill 1225: Paper by Request Additional Information

- Students' responses for all paper administrations must be processed in DEI by 11:59 p.m. (CT) on the last day of each testing window.
- The 3% paper by request numbers do not include the students who meet the criteria for a special paper administration.
- There are no changes to the special administration of an online assessment request process from last year.

Special Administration of an Assessment

TEA will continue to offer special administrations of online assessments.

- STAAR paper administration
- TELPAS reading paper administration
- TELPAS listening, speaking, and writing holistic administrations

There are no changes to the eligibility requirements:

- accommodations cannot be applied,
- medical emergency during STAAR testing dates,
- unable to participate in one domain of TELPAS, or
- technology access precluded.

The student's test record in TIDE must have

- either the *Special Ed Indicator Code* or the *Section 504 Indicator Code* turned on,
- the *Test Mode* field set to "Paper", and
- the specific paper test format set in the *Paper Test Format* field.

2023–2024 Accommodations: Reminder

Paper orders for online assessment: Unique Scenarios

- Juvenile Justice Alternative Education
- Homebound Student Without Internet
- Emergency Medical Situations

Contact:
Texas Testing Support at 833-601-8821

STAAR Alternate 2 Updates

What is STAAR Alternate 2?: Reminder

- STAAR Alternate 2 is an alternate assessment based on alternate academic achievement standards. It is a standardized item-based assessment administered individually to eligible students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are receiving special education services.
- STAAR Alternate 2 is a paper assessment. Only students who meet the Texas Education Agency (TEA) definition of a student with the most significant cognitive disability may be assessed with STAAR Alternate 2 and are:
  - enrolled in grades 3–8; or
  - enrolled in high school EOC courses Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II, U.S. History.
- Students who meet participation requirements are assessed with STAAR Alternate 2 for all subjects.

STAAR® ALTERNATE 2
State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness

ESSA Waiver Denial Letter: Update

NEW

2023 Texas One Percent Waiver Denial Letter

After reviewing TEA's waiver extension request, I am declining to exercise my authority under section 8401(b) of the ESEA to grant a one-year (school year 2022-2023) waiver of section 1111(b)(2)(D)(i)(I) of the ESEA, so that the State may assess more than 1.0 percent of the total number of students in the State who are assessed in R/LA, mathematics, and science using an AA-AAAS. TEA has not demonstrated progress in reducing the AA-AAAS participation rate in R/LA, mathematics, and science between the 2018-2019 and 2021-2022 school years.

TABLE 1. SPRING 2022 PARTICIPATION IN ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT BY SUBJECT

DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
STAAR ALTERNATE 2 TESTS, ALL STUDENTS MATHEMATICS	43,270	1.5%
STAAR TESTS, ALL STUDENTS MATHEMATICS	2,856,986	
STAAR ALTERNATE 2 TESTS, ALL STUDENTS RLA	48,795	1.4%
STAAR TESTS, ALL STUDENTS RLA	3,537,439	
STAAR ALTERNATE 2 TESTS, ALL STUDENTS SCIENCE	17,842	1.3%
STAAR TESTS, ALL STUDENTS SCIENCE	1,337,884	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

March 9, 2023

The Honorable Mike Morath
Commissioner of Education
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Commissioner Morath:

I am writing in response to the Texas Education Agency's (TEA) request on December 21, 2022, for a one-year extension of the State's waiver of section 1111(b)(2)(D)(i)(I) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), which stipulates that a State may not assess more than 1.0 percent of all students in the grades assessed using an alternate assessment aligned with alternate academic achievement standards (AA-AAAS). TEA requested this waiver extension because, based on State data for the 2021-2022 school year, TEA has concluded that it will assess more than 1.0 percent of students using an AA-AAAS in reading/language arts (R/LA), mathematics, and science.

After reviewing TEA's waiver extension request, I am declining to exercise my authority under section 8401(b) of the ESEA to grant a one-year (school year 2022-2023) waiver of section 1111(b)(2)(D)(i)(I) of the ESEA, so that the State may assess more than 1.0 percent of the total number of students in the State who are assessed in R/LA, mathematics, and science using an AA-AAAS. TEA has not demonstrated progress in reducing the AA-AAAS participation rate in R/LA, mathematics, and science between the 2018-2019 and 2021-2022 school years.

If the data reported by TEA are incorrect and the State can demonstrate that it has made progress in reducing the percentage of students taking the AA-AAAS between the 2018-2019 and 2021-2022 school years, TEA may revise its waiver request, consistent with section 8401(b)(4)(B)(ii) of the ESEA, to meet the requirements under 8401(b)(1)(C) and (F) and 34 CFR § 200.6(c)(4)(ii). The revised waiver request must address how the State met the requirements in 34 CFR § 200.6(c)(4), including the requirement to demonstrate substantial progress towards achieving each component of the prior year's plan and timeline. The revised waiver request must be submitted no later than 60 days from the date of this letter.

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202

Note: The 1% cap on students participating in the alternate assessment applies to the state.

Revised STAAR Alternate 2 Participation Requirements: Update

NEW

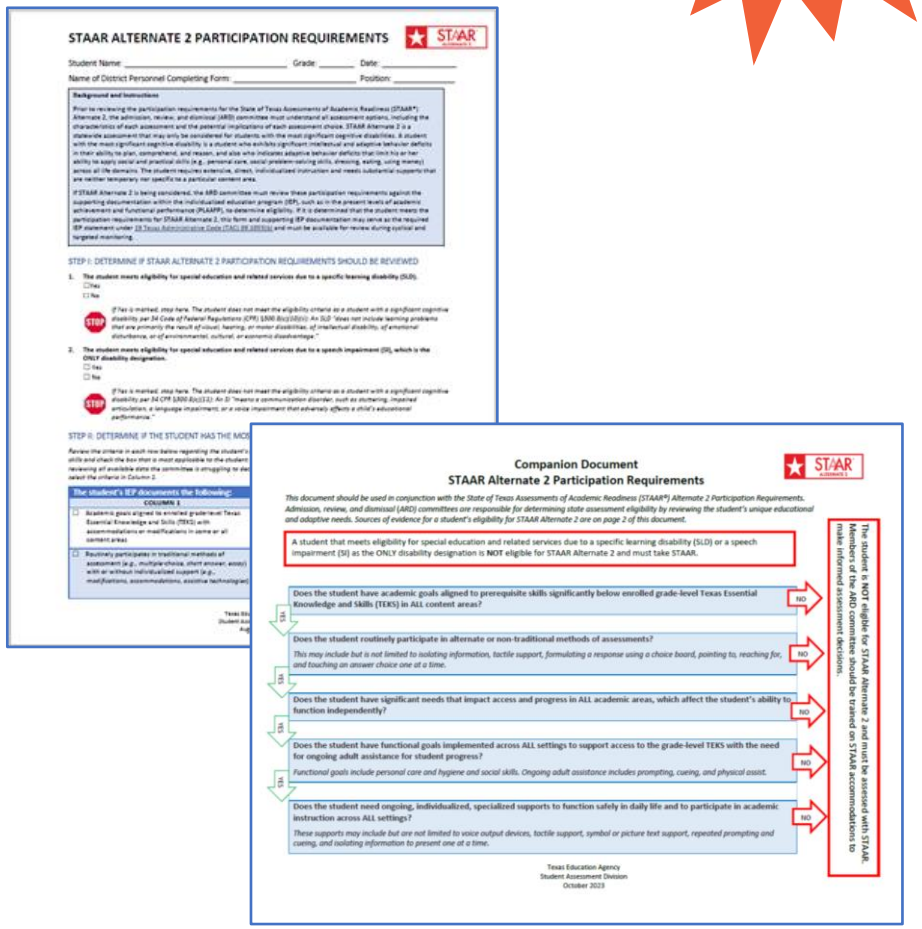
WHEN AND WHO	WHY
In August 2023, STAAR Alternate 2 Participation Requirements were revised using recommendations and feedback that included the following stakeholders across the state: ▪ Special education educators and administrators ▪ ESC administrators and specialists ▪ Special education advocates ▪ TEA Special Populations personnel	The purpose of revising the participation requirements was to ▪ clarify the scope of students that are assessed with STAAR Alternate 2 and ▪ satisfy ESSA requirements.

STAAR Alternate 2 Eligibility: Update

NEW

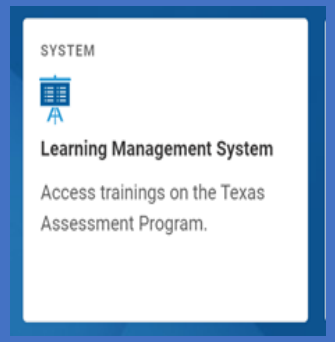
STAAR Alternate 2 Eligibility Resources

- Revised STAAR Alternate 2 Participation Requirements (English and Spanish)
- Revised STAAR Alternate 2 Companion Document (English and Spanish)
  - This document should be used in conjunction with the STAAR Alternate 2 Participation Requirements.

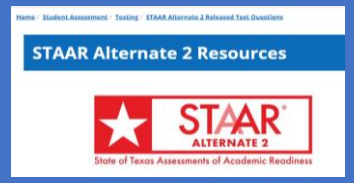


STAAR Alternate 2 Training Resources: Update

NEW



- **Revised STAAR Alternate 2 Participation Requirements Webinar Recording** (along with the PowerPoint)
  - Highly recommend that users have a copy of the revised STAAR Alternate 2 participation requirements while viewing the webinar.
- **STAAR Alternate 2 Overview and Eligibility Module**



- STAAR Alternate 2 Participation Requirements FAQs
- STAAR Alternate 2 Educator Guide
- STAAR Alternate Test Administrator Manual Coming Soon

TEA Learn

- STAAR Alternate 2 Before, During, and After Course Coming Soon

STAAR Alternate 2 Key Dates for 2023-2024: Reminder

Due Date for Districts to Indicate STAAR Alternate 2 Participation	By 12/14/23
Districts Receive Initial Order of Paper Test Materials	2/26/24—3/1/24
Districts submit Additional Order of Paper Test Materials	3/18/24—4/22/24 Test Materials By 5/6/24 Return Labels
Preview Window	3/11/24—4/26/24
Assessment Window	3/25/24—4/26/24
Submit Score Codes in TIDE and Scoring Information in DEI	4/26/24 11:59 p.m. (CT)
Districts Return Paper Test Materials	By 5/10/24

*Note: Meeting the deadline for submitting score codes and entering student responses **means** that everything has been entered/submitted and processed by that date and time.

STAAR Alternate 2 Test Materials: Reminder

Initial Order Materials

District personnel:

- Register eligible students in TIDE by **12/14**.
  - Any student who needs to take a STAAR Alternate 2 test must have the Special Ed Indicator code to 'Yes', and the *STAAR Alternate 2* field set to "Yes."
    - For STAAR Alternate 2 EOCs, the *STAAR Alternate 2 EOC Eligibility* fields for specific courses must also be marked "Yes" for the system to enable a student to take STAAR Alternate 2 EOC assessments.
- Form numbers are assigned for initial order materials.

Additional Order (AO) Materials

District personnel:

- Should only place an AO **after the district's overage materials have been exhausted**
- Must verify that the **additional STAAR Alternate students have been entered in TIDE,** and
- **Use the previously provided form number assignments** from the initial order materials.

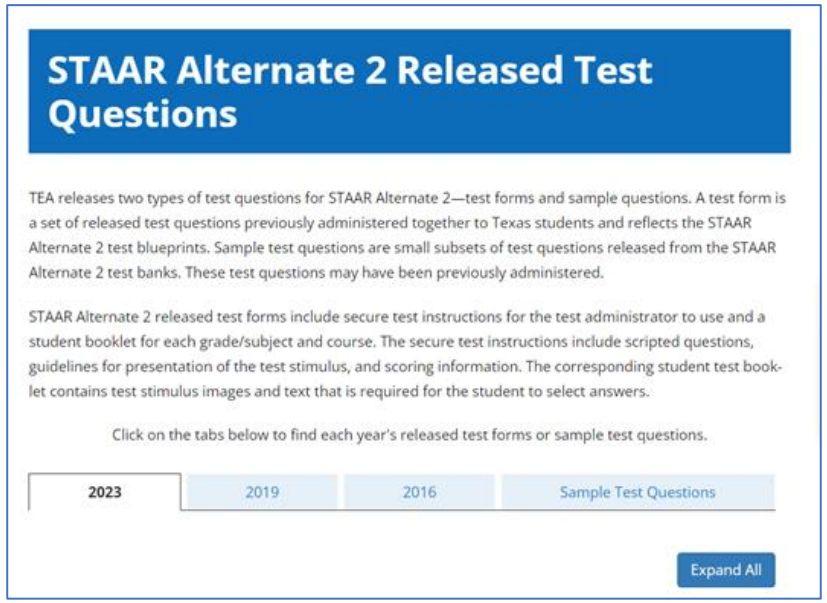
If not, then additional orders may be **rejected.**

2023 STAAR Alternate 2 Released Tests

NEW

The 2023 STAAR Alternate 2 tests were released.

- STAAR Alternate 2 released test forms include secure test instructions for the test administrator to use and a student booklet for each grade/subject and course.
- The secure test instructions include scripted questions, guidelines for presentation of the test stimulus, and scoring information.
- The corresponding student test booklet contains test stimulus images and text that is required for the student to select answers.



STAAR Alternate 2 Released Test Questions

TEA releases two types of test questions for STAAR Alternate 2—test forms and sample questions. A test form is a set of released test questions previously administered together to Texas students and reflects the STAAR Alternate 2 test blueprints. Sample test questions are small subsets of test questions released from the STAAR Alternate 2 test banks. These test questions may have been previously administered.

STAAR Alternate 2 released test forms include secure test instructions for the test administrator to use and a student booklet for each grade/subject and course. The secure test instructions include scripted questions, guidelines for presentation of the test stimulus, and scoring information. The corresponding student test booklet contains test stimulus images and text that is required for the student to select answers.

Click on the tabs below to find each year's released test forms or sample test questions.

2023 | 2019 | 2016 | Sample Test Questions

Expand All

TELPAS Updates

What is TELPAS?: Reminder

- TELPAS annually assesses the progress that emergent bilingual (EB) students make in learning the English language.
- All K–12 students classified as emergent bilingual EB/EL in the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) are required to participate in TELPAS, **including those who have parents who have declined bilingual/English as a Second Language (ESL) program services**.

TELPAS
Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System

Exceptions to an EB Student Being Assessed in One or More Language Domains: Reminder

An EB student receiving special education services
Decision must be made by ARD committee in conjunction with the LPAC.
Participation must be considered on a domain-by-domain basis.
Reason for not assessing student must be well-supported and documented.

An EB student from another Texas school district, state, or country who enrolls on or after the first day of the TELPAS testing window
Will not be assessed by receiving district in the holistically-rated domains.
Is required to take the TELPAS listening and speaking test and the reading and writing test.

TELPAS Components: Reminder

Grades K–1		Grades 2–12
Holistic Assessments		Online Tests
Listening	Speaking	Listening and Speaking (2-3, 4-5, 6-8, 9-12)
Reading	Writing	Reading and Writing (2, 3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-12)

Note: For students in grades 2-12 that cannot participate in an online test, refer to the Special Administration of an Assessment section in the DCCR for student eligibility criteria and process.

TELPAS Key Dates for 2023-2024: Reminder

Due Date for Adding All Students in TIDE	By 11/30/23
Due Date for Districts to Indicate Special Administration (paper and holistic) in TIDE	By 11/30/23
Districts Receive Test Administrator Manuals	1/22/24—1/26/24
Districts submit Additional Order of Paper Test Materials	2/12/24—3/25/24 Test Materials By 4/8/24 Return Labels
Assessment Window	2/19/24—3/29/24
Submit Score Codes and Upload Holistic Ratings in TIDE and Submit Student Responses (paper admin) in DEI*	3/29/24 11:59 p.m. (CT)
Districts Return Paper Test Materials	By 4/12/24

*Note: Meeting the deadline for submitting score codes, uploading holistic ratings, and entering student responses **means** that everything has been entered/submitted and processed by that date and time.

TELPAS Additional Order (AO) Window: Reminder

When is the TELPAS AO window?	The TELPAS additional order window is 2/12-3/25 for test materials and by 4/8 for return labels.
What should I know about the TELPAS AO window?	TELPAS reading paper tests (regular print, large print, braille contracted, and braille uncontracted **must be ordered** during the additional order window (even if the TELPAS paper test format was indicated in TIDE by 11/30).
What should I take into consideration when placing an AO?	When placing an AO, a district must consider the time it will take to ship materials, administer the assessment, and enter the responses in DEI by 3/29/24.

Blank Graphic Organizer for Online TELPAS Tests: Update

NEW

- Starting in Spring 2024, students will be allowed to use blank graphic organizers (paper only) for online TELPAS tests (listening and speaking and/or reading and writing). Students could use the blank graphic organizers to plan their speaking and writing responses.
- TELPAS has been added to the Supplemental Aids policy document.
  - Only blank graphic organizers will be allowed. Supplemental aides such as mnemonic devices and organizers with graphics or text will not be allowed.
  - Refer to the policy document for additional information on student eligibility and which committee can make the decision.
- Blank graphic organizers will need to be noted in TIDE as part of the non-embedded supports for TELPAS.

NOTE: The LPAC is not the sole authority for this designated support.

TELPAS Schedules and Administrations: Update

NEW

- Based on stakeholder feedback, we will be aligning our scheduling policy for TELPAS with our scheduling policy for STAAR.
- There is a **maximum allowable testing time of seven hours** for the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) assessment.
- Students must complete the assessment within the same school day, and **no test session may exceed seven hours**. Exceptions exist for eligible students who have an approved Extra Day accommodation.
- **TELPAS assessments should be administered on separate days** to allow students sufficient time and opportunity to do their best work (unless there is an extenuating circumstance towards the end of the test administration window).

Student's Grade Level during the TELPAS Administration Window: Reminder

- A student should have the same grade level across all domains during the TELPAS administration window (even if the test content is in the same grade band).
- It is recommended that once a student begins testing in one grade level, then the student should complete all testing with that same grade level.
- A student that does not have the same grade level across all domains during the administration window will not get a composite rating.

TELPAS Key Dates for Holistic Rater Training and Administrations: Reminder

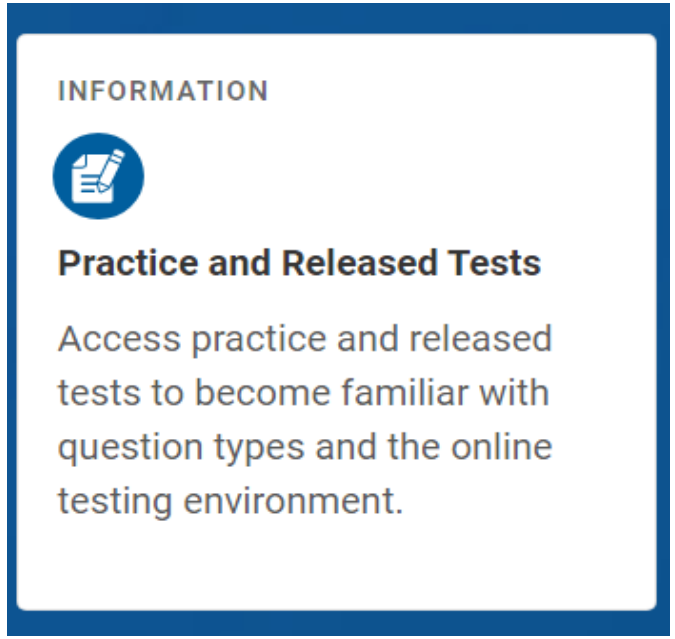
TELPAS Assessment Window (Grades K-12 Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing)	February 19 to March 29
TELPAS online training opens in LMS	January 8
Assembling and Verifying Grades 2–12 Writing Collections course available*	January 8
Online basic training courses for new K–1 and 2–12 raters* available	January 22
Calibration window opens for new and returning K-1 and 2-12* raters	February 5
Earliest eligibility date for TELPAS writing samples*	February 5

*Applicable for 2-12 raters with students with special holistic administration(s)

NOTE: Refer to the TELPAS Rater Training section in the DCCR and the 2023-204 TELPAS Holistic Rating Training PowerPoint for rater training requirements.

2023 TELPAS Released Tests and Scoring Guides: Reminder

- TELPAS Reading and Writing Test for Grades 2, 3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-12
- TELPAS Listening and Speaking Test for Grades 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, 9-12
- Available in the online testing platform
- Answer Keys and Scoring Guides (which include speaking and writing exemplars) are available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.



TELPAS Alternate Updates

TELPAS Alternate: Reminder

There are no changes to the actual TELPAS Alternate assessment.

TELPAS ALTERNATE

Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System

TELPAS Alternate Key Dates: Reminder

Due Date for Adding All Students in TIDE	By 11/30/23
Due Date for Districts to Indicate TELPAS Alternate Participation in TIDE	By 11/30/23
Districts Receive Initial Order of Paper Test Materials (Observable Behaviors)	1/22/24—1/26/24
Assessment Window	2/19/24—3/29/24
Submit Score Codes in TIDE and Submit Student Responses (Observable Behavior ratings) in DEI*	3/29/24 11:59 p.m. (CT)

*Note: Meeting the deadline for submitting score codes and entering student ratings **means** that everything has been entered/submitted and processed by that date and time.

What is TELPAS Alternate?: Reminder

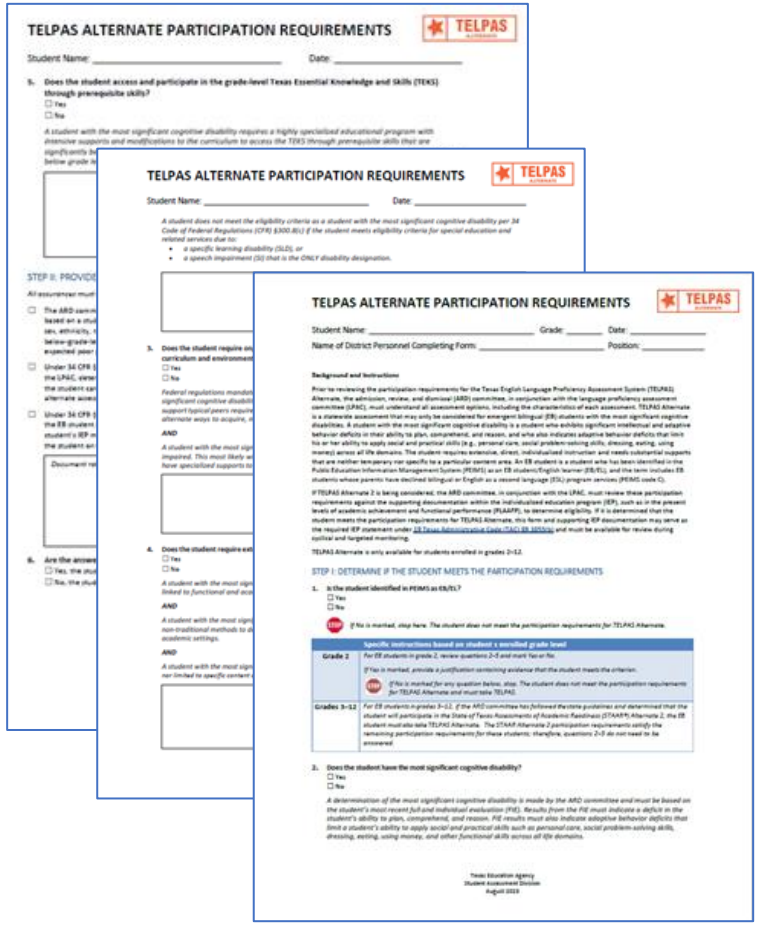
- A holistic inventory that assesses the language domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in grades 2–12
- Aligned to the Texas English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS)
- Based on alternate Proficiency Level Descriptors (PLDs) created to address the specific access needs of this population

Who Takes TELPAS Alternate?: Reminder

Students Eligible for TELPAS Alternate
Are EB students in grades 2–12 who have the most significant cognitive disabilities and who are in the process of acquiring English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
Have one or more disabilities that significantly limit their intellectual functioning, as shown by their ability to plan, comprehend, and reason, and their adaptive behavior, as shown by their ability to apply social and practical skills.

Please note: Unlike TELPAS, there are no domain-specific exemptions for TELPAS Alternate. Students must be assessed in all 4 language domains.

Updated TELPAS Alternate Participation Requirements: Reminder



- The TELPAS Alternate Participation Requirements (for grades 2–12 have been updated and are available on TEA's TELPAS Alternate Resources webpage.
- Participation requirements are intended to guide the ARD committee, in conjunction with the LPAC, when determining the appropriate English language proficiency assessment to administer to EB students.
- Documentation of eligibility is different for students in grade 2 compared to students in grades 3–12.
- For student in grades 3–12, the LPAC will answer question 1: "Is the student identified in PEIMS as EB/EL?", initial the assurances in Step II, and answer "Yes" in question 6.

TELPAS Alternate Participation Requirements: Question 6 for Grades 3-12: Reminder

STEP II: PROVIDE ASSURANCES AND CONFIRM TELPAS ALTERNATE PARTICIPATION

All assurances must be reviewed and marked for the student to participate in TELPAS Alternate.

- ☐ The ARD committee, in conjunction with the LPAC, confirms that the decision to administer TELPAS Alternate was NOT based on a student's disability category, educational environment, instructional setting, demographic information (i.e., sex, ethnicity, race, at-risk, homelessness, immigrant, migrant, economically disadvantaged), need for accommodations, below-grade-level reading skills, excessive or extended absences, anticipated disruptive behavior or emotional distress, or expected poor performance on the general assessment and its impact on accountability calculations.
- ☐ Under 34 CFR §300.320(a)(6) and 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §89.1055, if the ARD committee, in conjunction with the LPAC, determines that the EB student will take TELPAS Alternate, the student's IEP must provide a statement of why the student cannot participate in the general assessment, TELPAS, with or without accommodations, and why the alternate assessment is appropriate for the student.
- ☐ Under 34 CFR §300.320(a)(6) and 19 TAC §89.1055, if the ARD committee, in conjunction with the LPAC, determines that the EB student is eligible to take TELPAS Alternate with individually appropriate and allowable accommodations, the student's IEP must provide a statement of why the accommodations are necessary to measure the language proficiency of the student on the alternate assessment.

Document rationale below per 34 CFR §300.320(a)(6) and 19 TAC §89.1055.

For grades 3-12, if the student has met the updated STAAR Alternate 2 participation requirements, all the assurances should be marked, and the response should be "Yes" to Question #6.

6. Are the answers to questions 2–5 "Yes," and have all assurances been marked?

☐ Yes, the student meets the participation requirements for TELPAS Alternate and must be rated in all four domains.

☐ No, the student does not meet the participation requirements for TELPAS Alternate and must take TELPAS.

TEA Contact Information and Collaboration Opportunities

Texas Educator Assessment Committees

Classroom teachers, instructional coaches, campus and district content specialists, and campus administrators can serve in a variety of ways:

- **Educator passage review** – each potential passage for the RLA test is reviewed and approved by a committee of Texas educators
- **Educator item review** – each potential question for a state test is reviewed and approved by a committee of Texas educators
- **Constructed response range-finding** – educators are convened to set the scoring boundaries for student essays based on the rubric
- **Subject-area advisory groups** – groups of educators are convened to provide feedback on subject-area-specific topics

TEA Contact Information

For inquiries related to development and administration of state assessments, reporting activities,
or data corrections, please contact:

- Student Assessment Help Desk
- (512) 463-9536
- https://tea.Texas.gov/student.assessment/

We would love to hear from you!

Please use the QR code on this slide to connect to a quick feedback survey letting us know about your experience today.

We thank you in advance for the feedback!

Thank you!

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