

## Texas State Required Assessments: Detailed Information

*ESSA Public Law 114-95 Section (1112(e)(2)(B))*

### 1. State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®)

The STAAR program is the primary student assessment in Texas.

Component	Information
<b>Subject Matter/Grade</b>	<b>Grades 3-8:</b> Reading Language Arts (RLA), Mathematics. <b>Grades 5 &amp; 8:</b> Science. <b>Grade 8:</b> Social Studies. <b>End-of-Course (EOC):</b> Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II, U.S. History. (STAAR Spanish available for RLA, Math, and Science in grades 3-5 for eligible students.)
<b>Purpose</b>	To measure the extent to which students have learned and are able to apply the defined knowledge and skills in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) at each tested grade, subject, or course. It is used for federal and state accountability (A-F ratings) and to inform instructional practices. <b>EOCs</b> are also a high school graduation requirement.
<b>Source of Requirement</b>	<b>State Law:</b> Texas Education Code (TEC) §39.023(a), (c), and (l). <b>Federal Law:</b> Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires annual assessment in specific grades/subjects.
<b>Amount of Time</b>	Most STAAR assessments are allotted a <b>four-hour</b> time limit. <b>English I</b> and <b>English II EOCs</b> are allotted a <b>five-hour</b> time limit. (Specific accommodations may adjust this time.)
<b>Schedule</b>	The state sets <b>testing windows</b> . Districts schedule specific dates within these windows.  <i>(See current year's schedule)</i>
<b>Dissemination Format</b>	Results are reported to parents via the <b>Texas Assessment Family Portal</b> (online). Districts also release public reports, such as the Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR) and Federal Report Card.

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## 2. Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)

Component	Information
<b>Subject Matter/Grade</b>	English Language Proficiency in the domains of <b>Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing</b> (K-12). (TELPAS Alternate is for students with significant cognitive disabilities.)
<b>Purpose</b>	To assess the progress of Emergent Bilingual (EB) students in Texas public schools as they acquire the English language. This fulfills a federal requirement under ESSA and is used for federal and state accountability. The results help the Language Proficiency Assessment Committee (LPAC) make instructional decisions.
<b>Source of Requirement</b>	<b>State Law:</b> Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.056. <b>Federal Law:</b> Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires an annual assessment of English language proficiency for all English learners.
<b>Amount of Time</b>	TELPAS is primarily an online assessment with varying time for different sections and grade levels. <b>Reading</b> and <b>Writing</b> components have a time limit, while <b>Listening</b> and <b>Speaking</b> are typically untimed sessions. For Grades 2-12, the Reading and Writing components usually have a single-session time limit.
<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Testing Window:</b> February 16 – March 27, 2026 (for both TELPAS and TELPAS Alternate).
<b>Dissemination Format</b>	Results are reported to parents via the <b>Texas Assessment Family Portal</b> (online). Proficiency ratings and composite scores are provided.

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### 3. STAAR Alternate 2

Component	Information
<b>Subject Matter/Grade</b>	Academic performance in the same subjects as STAAR (RLA, Math, Science, Social Studies/EOCs) but aligned to the <b>Alternate TEKS</b> (for students with significant cognitive disabilities).
<b>Purpose</b>	To measure the academic progress of students with significant cognitive disabilities who meet the ARD committee-determined eligibility requirements for an alternate assessment. It ensures that all students are included in the state's accountability system as required by federal law.
<b>Source of Requirement</b>	<b>State and Federal Law:</b> Required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) as an alternate assessment based on alternate academic achievement standards.
<b>Amount of Time</b>	The test is individually administered and untimed, but the individual test items are short, direct questions and tasks. The test can be administered in multiple sessions over the testing window.
<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Testing Window:</b> March 16 – April 17, 2026. <b>Preview Window:</b> March 2 – March 16, 2026.
<b>Dissemination Format</b>	Results are reported to parents via the <b>Texas Assessment Family Portal</b> (online). Individual student reports reflect performance on the alternate academic achievement standards.

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#### 4. Local Education Agency (LEA) Assessments

This category includes any assessments chosen and administered by the school district outside of the required state assessments.

Component	Information
<b>Subject Matter/Grade</b>	Varies by district, but may include <b>benchmark/common assessments</b> , PK-2 assessments, or other district-mandated tests.
<b>Purpose</b>	To monitor student progress throughout the year, inform instructional adjustments, evaluate the effectiveness of curriculum/programs, and predict performance on state assessments.
<b>Source of Requirement</b>	<b>Local School Board Policy/District Administration Decision.</b> (Not mandated by the Texas Education Agency (TEA)).
<b>Amount of Time</b>	<b>Varies</b> based on the specific assessment instrument chosen by the district.
<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Varies</b> by district; typically scheduled at the beginning, middle, or end of a grading period or semester (e.g., fall, winter, and spring benchmarks).
<b>Dissemination Format</b>	<b>Varies</b> by district; often provided through student report cards, parent/teacher conferences, or a district-specific online data portal.