

August 23, 2024

Subject: Texas Assessment Program Updates for the 2024–2025 School Year

To the Regional and District Testing Coordinators Addressed:

The purpose of this communication is to inform local educational agencies (LEAs) about updates to the Texas Assessment Program for the 2024–2025 school year. These updates are a result of U.S. Department of Education (USDE) requirements and feedback received from educators and other stakeholders.

Reporting Updates

To assist educators, parents, students, and other stakeholders in understanding the various reports and reporting events for the Texas Assessment Program, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has made the following enhancements based on input received:

- An easy to use, color-coded PDF that lists reporting deliverables, their purposes, and their delivery dates is available to download, print, and share. The one-page (front and back) document is available on the [Student Assessment Results](#) webpage.
- Additional information for extended constructed responses is being included in assessment data files that are sent to LEAs. Non-scorable condition codes and a glossary explaining them will be available. Points earned for each of the two sections of the writing rubric—Development and Organization of Ideas and Conventions—will be provided.
- Early student-level results, available in the Centralized Reporting System (CRS) and in data files, are provided for student-level decisions and allow LEAs an opportunity to analyze the results ahead of the scheduled correction window. As such, early student-level results will no longer include statewide aggregate results. Statewide aggregate results will be available with the preliminary assessment results for accountability provided about a week after the early results.
- Within CRS, in a new *Item Analysis Report* task, authorized educators will be able to see the points each student earned for the question and the student expectation the question is assessing.
- We are pleased to announce that with the release of Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) questions after the spring 2025 administration, educators will be able to listen to students' speaking responses in CRS. In addition, parents will be able to see all TELPAS test questions and their child's responses, including responses to listening questions, in the Family Portal.

Testing Consolidation Plan

Based on feedback from educators, parents, and students, TEA is implementing a new policy for consolidating students who are still testing after a certain point. Students who are not testing or who have completed testing should be participating in a regular or alternate class schedule in which enrichment activities (e.g., instruction beyond the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) are being shared. Students who are still testing after about four hours should be consolidated to continue testing. District testing coordinators must ensure that each campus administering STAAR or TELPAS has a plan in place to

consolidate students who are still testing after a certain point. Campus plans may vary based on the total number of students testing, the subject being tested, the availability of staff and space, the class schedule used on testing days, etc. Test administrators must inform students that, at some point, students who are still testing will be grouped together and students who have completed testing will join a regular or alternate class schedule. Refer to the [Program Overview](#) section of the *Coordinator Resources* for potential testing scenarios district testing personnel may use when developing their local consolidation plans.

Enhancement to Accommodations

Based on feedback from educators, students will see enhancements to two accommodations.

- Students who receive content and language supports for STAAR reading language arts assessments will experience an improvement to the pre-read support for reading passages. The updated pre-read information will include a list of essential words to more closely align with how vocabulary is previewed during instruction and to decrease the reading load for students.
- Students who use text-to-speech (TTS) will see the entire line of text highlighted in addition to the word being spoken to assist with visual tracking.

Testing System Updates

Based on input from educators, the Test Delivery System (TDS) and the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) have been updated to include several enhancements.

- While taking assessments in TDS, students will see improved pop-up message boxes that have icons and TTS functionality (if approved for this accommodation) to aid in student understanding.
- To assist district testing personnel in accounting for all students, specifically those students testing online, a *Test Progress Summary* task has been added to the *Monitoring Test Progress* tab in TIDE. This task provides visual representations and detailed information of the number and percentage of students who have started or completed an assessment online based on test completion rates.
- The Secure File Center has an updated interface and will now allow district personnel to select and download multiple files at once and share them with up to 25 users at a time.

For more information about the updates for this school year, refer to the [Updates](#) section of the *Coordinator Resources*. If you have questions about the updates or about the Texas Assessment Program, contact TEA using the Student Assessment [Help Desk](#).



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