

May 20, 2021

Subject: Student Assessment Updates for the 2021–2022 School Year

To the Regional and District Testing Coordinator Addressed:

This communication is to inform you of two important updates regarding the Texas Assessment Program for the 2021–2022 school year. Updated versions of the Minimum System Requirements and the Student Assessment Testing Calendar for the 2021–2022 school year are now available. In addition, draft testing calendars for the 2022–2023 and 2023–2024 school years have been posted.

### **Updates to the 2021–2022 Minimum System Requirements**

As previously announced, starting September 1, 2021, Cambium Assessment, Inc. (CAI) will support the Texas Education Agency (TEA) by hosting and managing a single testing platform for all assessments—the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®), STAAR Interim Assessments, STAAR Alternate 2, the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS), and TELPAS Alternate. The agency has been working with CAI to update the minimum system requirements necessary to administer online assessments.

The updated 2021–2022 Minimum System Requirements is now posted on the TEA website at [New Texas Assessment Program Vendor Information](#). This is a webpage designed to provide information regarding the transition to our new testing vendors.

### **Updates to the 2021–2022 Student Assessment Testing Calendar**

The updated 2021–2022 Student Assessment Testing Calendar is now posted on the TEA website at [Testing Calendar](#). The revised testing calendar reflects the following updates.

- The STAAR online testing windows have been extended to two weeks for all administrations.
  - December 2021 STAAR EOC assessments (December 7–17)
  - April 2022 STAAR grades 3–8 and EOC assessments (April 5–15)
  - May 2022 STAAR EOC assessments (May 3–13)
  - May 2022 STAAR grades 3–8 assessments (May 5–20)
  - June 2022 STAAR grades 3–8 and EOC assessments (June 21–July 1)
- Information for STAAR grade 8 science and social studies tests have been separated from the information for the May STAAR EOC assessments since these grade 8 tests belong with the STAAR grades 3–8 administration.
- STAAR Alternate 2 information has been updated to include:
  - the preview window (March 14–April 29) and
  - an extended five-week test administration window (March 28–April 29).
- There are no changes to the TELPAS or TELPAS Alternate testing windows (February 21–April 1).

- The STAAR Stand-Alone Field Test scheduled for February 2022 has been added. Detailed information about the field test will be sent to districts in the next few weeks.
- The specific tests for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) have been updated as listed below, and districts will receive notification of selected schools in late August.
  - Mathematics Grades 4 and 8
  - Reading Grades 4 and 8
  - Civics Grade 8
  - U.S. History Grade 8
  - Long Term Trend (17-year-olds)

### **Draft Versions of the 2022–2023 and 2023–2024 Student Assessment Testing Calendars**

Draft versions of the Student Assessment Testing Calendars for the 2022–2023 and 2023–2024 school years are now posted on the TEA website at [Testing Calendar](#). The draft versions currently follow the updated testing calendar for next year. However, these draft testing calendars will likely need to be updated based on the implementation of the STAAR redesign scheduled for the 2022–2023 school year.

If you have any questions about this information, please submit them to TEA using the Student Assessment [Help Desk](#).

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