TEA Update on the STAAR Program

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AGENDA

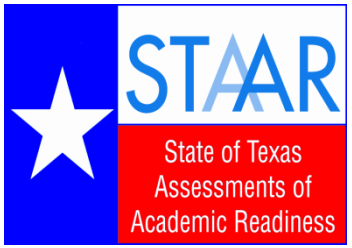
- Overview of the STAAR program
- STAAR EOC assessment requirements
- STAAR testing in spring 2012

Overview of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Program

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness

- New assessment program for elementary, middle, and high school
- Includes
  - STAAR
  - STAAR Spanish
  - STAAR L
  - STAAR Modified
  - STAAR Alternate

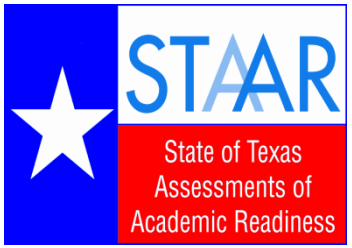
State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness



- For elementary and middle school
  - Grades 3–8 mathematics
  - Grades 3–8 reading
  - Grades 4 and 7 writing
  - Grades 5 and 8 science
  - Grade 8 social studies

- For high school
  - Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II
  - English I, English II, and English III
  - Biology, Chemistry, and Physics
  - World Geography, World History, and U.S. History

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness



- STAAR will
  - Provide a more clearly articulated assessment program
  - Focus on fewer skills
  - Address skills in deeper manner

Clearly Articulate

- General resources available at http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/
  - Description of the new assessment model
  - Informational brochures
  - PowerPoint presentations
  - Updated questions and answers
  - Comparison of TAKS and STAAR
  - Total mandatory testing days
  - Performance labels and policy definitions
  - Optional test administration procedures and materials

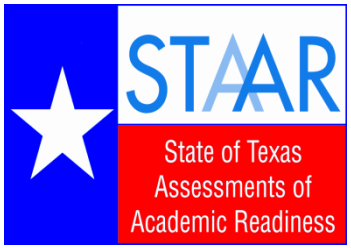
Clearly Articulate

- Subject-specific resources available at http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/
  - Sample test questions
  - Assessed curriculum
  - Assessment blueprints
  - Test design schematics (reading, writing, and English)
  - Scoring rubrics (writing and English)
  - Assessing process skills (math, science, and social studies)
  - Reference materials (math and science)
  - Griddable item format (math and science)
  - Graph paper (math)

Clearly Articulate

- Resources still to come
  - Additional information about accommodations
  - Testing manuals
  - Specific performance level descriptors
  - Performance standards

Focus on Fewer



Educator Advisory Committees

- ❑ Reviewed TEKS curriculum to determine what can and cannot be assessed
- ❑ Determined that the majority of the TEKS are eligible for the assessment because they can be tested
- ❑ Reviewed eligible TEKS to determine what should be the focus of the assessment; these are called Readiness Standards

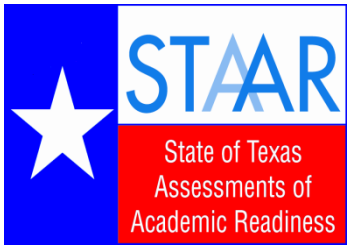
Focus on Fewer

- In general, Readiness Standards
  - Are essential for success in the current grade or course
  - Are important for preparedness for the next grade or course
  - Support college and career readiness
  - Necessitate in-depth instruction
  - Address broad and deep ideas

Focus on Fewer

- In general, Supporting Standards
  - May be introduced in the current grade or course and emphasized in a subsequent year
  - May be emphasized in a previous year and reinforced in the current grade or course
  - May play a role in preparing students for the next grade or course but not a central role
  - May address more narrowly defined ideas

Focus on Fewer



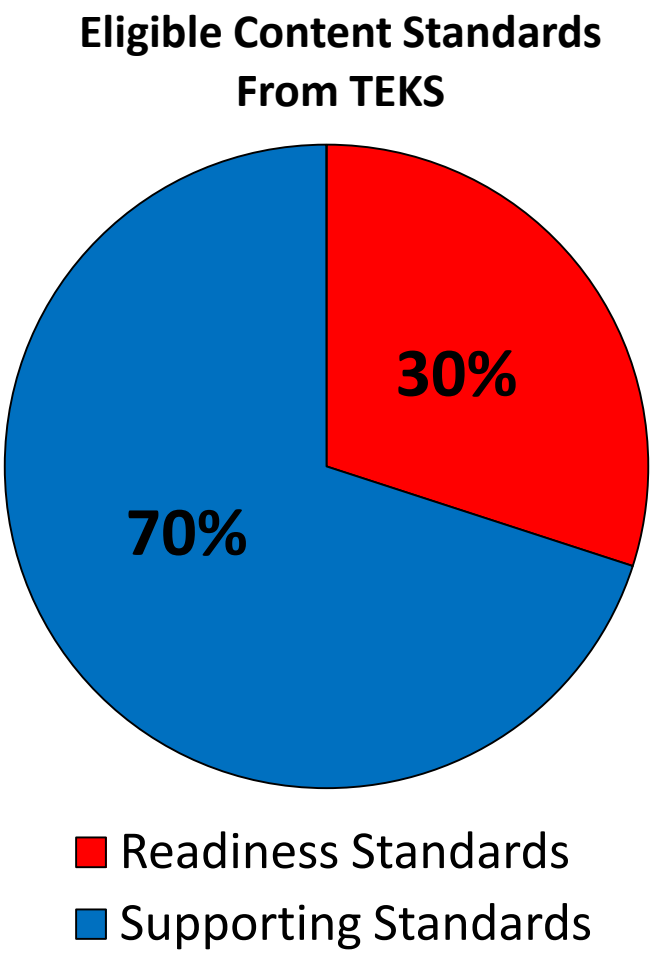
- Readiness and Supporting Standards are identified in the assessed curriculum documents.

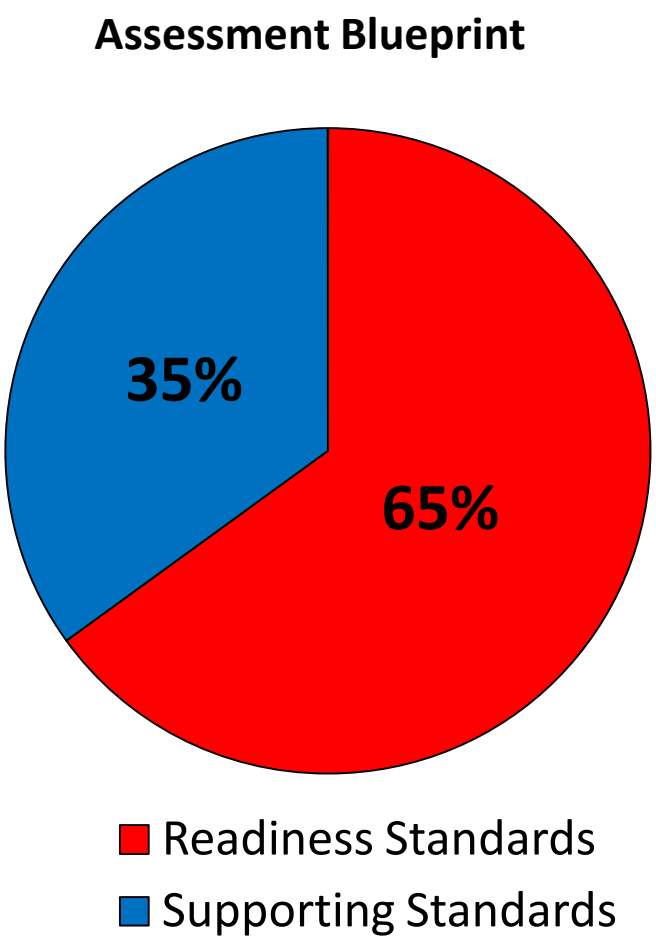
- These documents are posted on the TEA student assessment website at http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/.

Focus on Fewer

- Readiness Standards
  - Encompass 30–40% of the eligible TEKS
  - Will make up 60–65% of the assessment
- Supporting Standards
  - Encompass 60–70% of the eligible TEKS
  - Will make up 35–40% of the assessment

Focus on Fewer





Deeper Manner

- More questions with a higher cognitive complexity level to match TEKS
- Greater emphasis on critical thinking and reading across genres
- Two essays required in writing
- Assessing process skills with content skills in mathematics, science, and social studies
- Greater number of open-ended (griddable) questions on mathematics and science

Performance Standards

Performance Labels

- There will be two cut scores, which will identify three performance categories for the general STAAR assessments.
- The labels for the performance categories are
  - Level III: Advanced Academic Performance
  - Level II: Satisfactory Academic Performance
  - Level I: Unsatisfactory Academic Performance

Performance Standards

STAAR
State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness

Performance Labels

PERFORMANCE

Level I: Unsatisfactory Academic Performance	Level II: Satisfactory Academic Performance	Level III: Advanced Academic Performance

Performance Standards

STAAR EOC Assessments

- Level III: Advanced Academic Performance is the postsecondary-readiness indicator for English III and Algebra II.
- Research will be conducted to investigate a postsecondary-readiness component for STAAR science and social studies EOC assessments.

Performance Standards

STAAR EOC Assessments

- Standards will be set in February 2012 prior to first high stakes administration in spring 2012.
- First reports with performance standards applied will be available in June 2012.
- First retests will be offered in July 2012.

Performance Standards

STAAR Grades 3–8 Assessments

- Standards will be set in October 2012 after first administration in spring 2012.
- Raw score information will be available in late spring 2012.
- First reports with performance standards applied will be available in late fall 2012.

STAAR End-of-Course Assessment Requirements

STAAR EOC Assessment Requirements

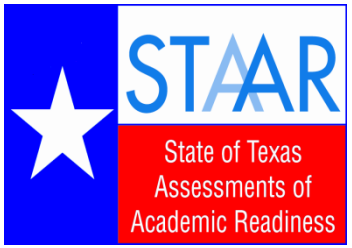
- ❑ Who is required to test?
- ❑ When and how does the 15% grading requirement apply?
- ❑ What are the cumulative score requirements?
- ❑ Who is required to achieve specific performance levels?

STAAR EOC Assessment Requirements

- Who is required to test?
- Any student enrolled in grades 3–9* who is enrolled in and completing a high school course that has a related assessment including
  - Students who are earning credit through
    - Correspondence courses
    - Dual credit courses
    - AP/IB courses
    - Credit by exam
  - Students on the Minimum High School Program

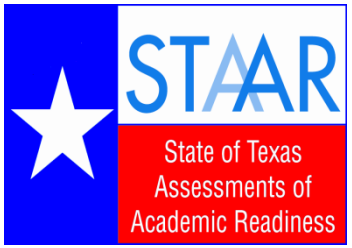
*First enrolled in grade 9 in the 2011–2012 school year

STAAR EOC Assessment Requirements



- How does the 15% grading requirement apply?
- The 15% grading requirement must apply to the final course grade which is used to award course credit.
- Districts should establish local policies to implement this statutory requirement.

STAAR EOC Assessment Requirements



- When does the 15% grading requirement apply?
- The 15% grading requirement applies to the final course grade as students are earning course credit including
  - Students in grades 3–8 who are earning high school credit
  - Students who earn credit by semester
  - Students receiving special education services who take the general assessment
  - Students on the Minimum High School Program
  - Students enrolled in dual credit courses
  - Students enrolled in correspondence courses
  - Students who repeat a course
- The 15% grading requirement does not apply to students taking STAAR Modified or STAAR Alternate.

STAAR EOC Assessment Requirements

- What are the cumulative score requirements?
- A student must achieve a cumulative score that is at least equal to the product of the number of EOC assessments taken in that content area and a scale score that indicates satisfactory performance (Level II).
- For each of the four core content areas,

  the cumulative score ≥ *n* x passing scale score,

  where *n* = number of assessments taken.
- A student must achieve a minimum score for the score to count towards the student's cumulative score.

STAAR EOC Assessment Requirements

- What are the cumulative score requirements?
- Cumulative score requirements will vary by student depending on
  - Graduation plan (RHSP and DAP versus MHSP)
  - Whether course credit was earned prior to spring 2012
  - Whether course credit was earned outside of Texas public schools
  - Whether he or she is receiving special education services
- Cumulative score information will be available in the Texas Assessment Management System.
- Cumulative score requirements do not apply to students taking STAAR Modified or STAAR Alternate.

STAAR EOC Assessment Requirements

- Who is required to achieve specific performance levels?
- Students graduating on the Distinguished Achievement Program must meet Level III: Advanced Academic Performance (postsecondary readiness) on
  - English III
  - Algebra II
- Students graduating on the Recommended High School Program must meet Level II: Satisfactory Academic Performance on
  - English III
  - Algebra II

STAAR EOC Assessment Requirements

- Who is required to meet specific performance levels?
- In some cases, a student will not have to meet Level II or III requirements on English III or Algebra II if he or she
  - Earned course credit prior to spring 2012
  - Earned course credit outside of Texas public schools
  - Is receiving special education services

STAAR Testing in Spring 2012

Testing in Spring 2012

Plan for phase-out of TAKS and phase-in of STAAR

	2011–2012	2012–2013	2013–2014	2014–2015	2015–2016
GR 3–8	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR
GR 9	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR
GR 10	TAKS	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR
GR 11	TAKS	TAKS	STAAR	STAAR	STAAR
GR 12 & Out-of-School Students	TAKS	TAKS	TAKS	STAAR or TAKS	STAAR or TAKS

Testing in Spring 2012

- STAAR grades 3–8 assessments will be administered on paper.

- STAAR EOC assessments will be administered in both paper and online formats for students who have STAAR as a graduation requirement.

Testing in Spring 2012

- Students who have TAKS as a graduation requirement may take only the STAAR EOC assessments for courses in which their campus has been assigned to the mandatory sample.

- This includes
  - Repeating grade 9 students
  - Grade 10 students
  - Grade 11 students
  - Grade 12 students

For More Information…

- Go to the STAAR Resources Webpage
  http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/

- Read the updated STAAR Questions & Answers
  http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/

- Sign up for the listserv
  http://miller.tea.state.tx.us/list/index.html

QUESTIONS?

- E-mail the student assessment division at studentassessment@tea.state.tx.us

- Call the student assessment division at 512-463-9536