



Fall ELL Assessment Update

September 15, 2015

TETN Event #36151

Student Assessment Division

Texas Education Agency

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Topics

- STAAR Spanish updates
- STAAR L updates
- TELPAS updates
- LPAC reminders
- Key steps to take this fall
- Questions



STAAR SPANISH UPDATES

STAAR Spanish Updates

New Math Performance Standards

- Standard-setting meetings were held in July.
- Updated reports (Confidential Student Reports, Confidential Campus Rosters, and Student Data Files) were available to districts online in early September.

SSI

- Student Success Initiative (SSI) grade-advancement requirements will be reinstated for mathematics in the 2015–2016 school year.
- Retest opportunities will be available for math and reading in grades 5 and 8 on the dates shown on the testing calendar.

House Bill 743 and STAAR Spanish

- TEA was charged with redesigning STAAR assessments in grades 3–8 to reduce testing time.
- STAAR Spanish grade 4 writing test will be redesigned to be administered in one four-hour administration for spring 2016.
- Data will be gathered during spring 2016 administration in order to determine how to adjust the remaining assessments to meet testing time requirements of bill. These redesigned assessments will be administered beginning in spring 2017.

STAAR Spanish Release

- Primary administrations of spring 2015 grades 3–5 reading, grade 4 writing, and grade 5 science STAAR Spanish tests have been released.
- Sampling for grades 3–5 STAAR Spanish mathematics items have also been released.
- Can be found at [http://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Testing/State_of_Texas_Assessments_of_Academic_Readiness_\(STAAR\)/STAAR_Released_Test_Questions/](http://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Testing/State_of_Texas_Assessments_of_Academic_Readiness_(STAAR)/STAAR_Released_Test_Questions/)
- Full release of 2016 grades 3–5 Spanish test forms is planned.

STAAR Spanish Update

- New webpage for STAAR Spanish assessments will be available later this fall from TEA's Student Assessment Division website.
- This webpage will include information related to STAAR Spanish assessments.



STAAR L UPDATES

December 2015 STAAR L EOC Administrations

- All administered in paper format only
 - No registration for online testing for this administration
 - No special request process for STAAR L paper
- Participation collection managed in current version of TAMS
 - Counts for STAAR L should have been updated from August 19th through September 4th
- Pearson to provide ETS with a file of STAAR EOC non-masters
 - Non-master file will include STAAR L and STAAR A students for whom a document was submitted in spring or summer 2015 and who did not pass
- Districts will be able to add students or update information through ETS's test management platform beginning September 28th.

December 2015 STAAR L EOC Administrations

- Students will record their responses on answer documents.
 - No online transcribe form
 - Honor statement included on answer document
- Linguistic accommodations and other student information to be recorded along with other applicable accommodations on the answer document.

December 2015 STAAR L EOC Administrations

- Special December STAAR L Paper Administration Guides
 - Replacing what used to be the paper supplement and English clarification guide (ECG)
 - Each STAAR L test will have its own paper administration guide that includes
 - Non-secure section with general information for district and campus coordinators, test administrator information and test directions, and instructions for off-limits word list
 - Secure section with off-limits word list
- Non-secure section will be posted on STAAR L webpage ahead of time.
- Complete paper administration guides will be shipped later this fall with testing materials.

December 2015 STAAR L EOC Administrations

- Linguistic accommodations provided by test administrator
- In addition to receiving training on general test administration procedures and test security, test administrators need to be trained in testing procedures specific to STAAR L paper administrations.
- Test administrators who provide clarification of word meaning should be familiar with the subject matter assessed, linguistic needs of the students, and work routinely with the students in assisting with or delivering instruction.
- The updated *2015–2016 Training on Linguistic Accommodations for the STAAR Program* PowerPoint will be located at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/staarl/>

Spring and Summer 2016 STAAR L Administrations

- Will be available in new online interface
 - Student tutorials and practice sets will be updated and available by early spring so students can practice using the new interface.
- Special request process for paper administrations will resume



TELPAS UPDATES

Changes to TELPAS Holistic Rating Training

- Texas Training Center website for TELPAS online training being phased out
 - Training histories will no longer be available after October 16, 2015.
- It is recommended that —
 - raters download and save any certificates they would like to keep
 - coordinators download and save the 2015 Confidential Course Completion Roster and At-a-Glance Training & Calibration Report

Changes to TELPAS Holistic Rating Training

- New training site for TELPAS online training launches January 2016
 - Raters will be required to create a new account each year.
 - Accounts and calibration certificates will be purged from new training site at the end of each training window.

Changes to TELPAS Holistic Rating Training

- Calibration must be completed in monitored setting.
- Local procedures must be established for verifying the completion of online courses and calibration activities.
- Number of opportunities to calibrate reduced from three sets to two sets.
- Supplemental support provider training eliminated.

TELPAS Spring Dates – DRAFT

Date	Activity
Jan 4–8	TELPAS manuals shipped to districts
Jan 11	Assembling and Verifying Grades 2–12 Writing Collections course available
Jan 27	End date for district coordinator training—all TELPAS components
Jan 27	Online basic training courses for new K–1 and 2–12 raters available
Feb 5	End date for campus coordinator training—holistically assessed components
Feb 15	Calibration window opens for new and returning raters
Feb 15	End date for training raters on administration procedures
Feb 15	Earliest eligibility date for TELPAS writing samples
Mar 7–Apr 6	TELPAS assessment window
Apr 7–8	Data verification window

Holistic Rating Training Resources

2015–2016 training resources:

- PowerPoint presentations (coming soon)
 - Making the ELPS-TELPAS Connection: K–12 Overview
 - Introductory Training on the PLDs (separate modules for K–1 and 2–12)
 - Grades 2–12 Writing Collection Overview
- Holistic Rating Training Requirements (coming soon)
- Educator Guide to TELPAS

Holistic Rating Training Resources

Additional training resources to be added early spring:

- PowerPoint presentations
 - Spring 2016 TELPAS Holistic Rating Training System
 - 2016 TELPAS Online Testing and Data Collection

These resources will be available from the TELPAS Resources webpage at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/telpas/>

Changes to TELPAS Online Testing

- Grades 2–12 online TELPAS reading tests and entry of holistic rating information will be delivered through TestNav 8.
 - Updated tutorials for the grades 2–12 reading test will be available early spring.
- TELPAS testing activities will be managed through Pearson’s updated test management platform PearsonAccess Next in the spring.
 - Pearson has scheduled several webinars and face-to-face trainings for technology coordinators and district testing coordinators.
 - These are planned for mid-October through early November.

Spring 2016 TELPAS Writing Audit

- Audits provide ongoing evidence of the validity and reliability of the holistically rated writing component of TELPAS to meet federal and state requirements.
- Selected districts will be notified in the spring of their participation.

TELPAS Changes for Future

- TEA is exploring ways to increase standardization and validity of listening and speaking ratings while reducing the overall amount of training required of TELPAS raters.



LPAC REMINDERS

Reminders

LPACs —

- need to meet as a committee to determine the best state assessment option for each ELL
- should make assessment decisions as close to the time of the administration of state assessments as possible
- are required to make and document assessment decisions in accordance with outlined procedures

Reminders

- The general STAAR is taken by ELLs and other students who do not meet participation requirements for STAAR Spanish, STAAR L, STAAR A, or STAAR Alternate 2.
- LPACs should be aware that —
 - STAAR L is available in mathematics, science, and social studies
 - STAAR Spanish is available in grades 3–5 only
 - ELLs taking general STAAR assessments may be permitted some linguistic accommodations

Reminders

Language of Assessment Decisions

- Must be individual student decisions
- Grade-based or program-based decisions not authorized
- LPAC must consider input from student's teacher(s) in making language of assessment decisions
- STAAR Spanish may be given in grades 3–5 to both ELLs and non-ELLs as long as the LPAC determines it to be the most appropriate measure of a student's academic progress in accordance with TEA guidelines.
- Students are not limited to three years of assessment with STAAR Spanish.

Reminders

ELL Participation in STAAR A and STAAR Alternate 2

- STAAR A assessments are for students with disabilities, including ELLs, who meet eligibility requirements.
- STAAR Alternate 2 assessments are for students receiving special education services, including ELLs, who meet requirements for an alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards.
- ELLs participate **only** on basis of disability, not second language acquisition.

English I EOC Special Provision TAC §101.1007

- For ELLs who —
 - have been enrolled in U.S. schools 3 school years or less (5 or less if qualifying unschooled asylee/refugee) and
 - have not yet attained TELPAS advanced high reading rating
- When enrolled in English I/ESOL I course, eligible ELL shall not be required to retake assessment each time it is administered if student passes course but does not meet standard.

Note:

- Students are not exempt from testing while in the course.
- Provision does not apply to English II.
- Provision is not tied to any particular graduation plan.

Special Provision and the Individual Graduation Committee – SB 149

ELLs who qualify for the Special Provision for English I are required to complete IGC requirements for English I in addition to the other course in which the student failed to achieve the EOC assessment performance requirements.

ELLs with Parental Denials TAC §101.1005 (f)

- Reminder: These students are not eligible for special ELL assessment, accommodation, or accountability provisions
 - No testing in Spanish
 - No linguistic accommodations during testing
 - No English I EOC special provision
 - No unschooled asylee/refugee provision
- ELLs with parental denials may, however, use bilingual, ESL, or other allowable dictionaries as part of dictionary policy for STAAR reading and writing tests in grade 6 and up; under this policy, use of certain dictionaries are not considered linguistic accommodations.



KEY STEPS TO TAKE THIS FALL

I. Conduct ELPS and TELPAS professional development sessions

- Teachers are required to implement the ELPS and content area TEKS in instruction.
- District and campus administrators need working knowledge of ELPS and TELPAS.
- TELPAS familiarization training is
 - good for future raters
 - good way to reinforce use of PLDs all year long

2. Help support teacher use of TELPAS results and ELPS PLDs to monitor and maximize learning of English

Beginning of year:

- Review ELLs' past TELPAS results to see if making steady progress in learning English
- TELPAS confidential campus student rosters include
 - 2 years of test scores
 - how long student has been in U.S. schools

3. Help support LPAC use of TELPAS results and ELPS PLDs to monitor and maximize learning of English

LPAC meetings during school year:

- Use previous spring's TELPAS results and current year's teacher input to
 - gauge progress in English proficiency
 - review and adjust linguistic accommodations used in instruction
 - plan for instructional interventions, if necessary
 - plan for linguistic accommodations during state assessment

Remember

- When implemented effectively in instruction, linguistic accommodations
 - accelerate learning of academic content and English
 - reduce length of time and degree to which substantial linguistic accommodations needed

The ELPS, as measured by TELPAS, support better learning of the TEKS, as measured by STAAR.

Future TETN

LPAC Training: Event #36152

- December 2, 2015 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (CST)
- Open to ESCs only (Closed to Districts)
- This TETN is a training of trainers (TOT) for designated ESC staff to train districts to guide language proficiency assessment committees (LPACs) in making assessment and accommodation decisions for English language learners (ELLs) participating in the state's assessment program.

Contact Information

- Access Assessments for ELLs webpage at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ell/>
- Call the TEA Student Assessment Division at (512) 463-9536
- Email us at ELL.tests@tea.texas.gov