



General Information:

In fulfillment of the requirements of House Bill 3 passed by the 81st Texas Legislature and incorporated into Texas Education Code (TEC) Chapter 39, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) developed the **State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR)**. STAAR is a more rigorous assessment program that provides the foundation for a new accountability system for Texas public education.

STAAR replaced the **Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS)** in spring 2012. The STAAR program at grades 3–8 assesses the same subjects and grades that were assessed on TAKS. At high school, however, grade-specific assessments were replaced with end-of-course (EOC) assessments. House Bill 5, passed by the 82nd Texas Legislature, lowered the end-of-course requirements from 15 assessments to 5 assessments: Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II, and U.S. History. STAAR EOC began with the entering 2011-12 9th graders.

Students at Hooks Elementary will Participate in the Following Assessments under STAAR:

Grade 3 Reading and Math

Grade 4 Reading, Math, and Writing

Students at Hooks Junior High will Participate in the Following Assessments under STAAR:

Grade 5 Reading, Math, and Science

Grade 6 Reading and Math

Grade 7 Reading, Math*, and Writing

Grade 8 Reading, Math*, Science, and Social Studies

*Students participating in the Advance Track Math Program will take the Advanced Class Assessment. (7th graders will take the 8th Grade STAAR and 8th Grade will take the Algebra I EOC).

The Student Success Initiative:

The Student Success Initiative (SSI) requires that students in grades 5 and 8 pass both STAAR reading and math exams to be promoted to the next grade. Students will test in April. Any student who needs to retest will be tested in May. Summer testing will be provided in June with a 3rd opportunity to pass the STAAR 5th & 8th grade reading and math exam.

Students at Hooks High School will Participate in the Following STAAR End Of Course Assessments:

Math	Science	English	Social Studies
Algebra I	Biology	English I	U.S. History
		English II	

Students only take an End of Course Exam in a class for which they are currently enrolled.

Student Performance:

Once students have taken a STAAR assessment they will receive a score indicating their performance. Students will fall in to one of the three categories below:

- Masters Grade Level
- Meets Grade Level
- Approaches Grade Level
- Did Not Meet Grade Level

Special Population Testing

Assessments for Students Receiving Special Education Services

Most students will take the STAAR or STAAR EOC Assessment. Accommodations are provided to students who meet the qualifications. STAAR Alternate 2 is the only alternate assessment offered for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

Assessments for English Language Learners

The STAAR program includes a Spanish Version for students in grades 3-5 who qualify.

In addition, students are assessed in TELPAS. The TELPAS Alternate is offered for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

Testing Accommodations

TEA accessibility policies may apply to any student taking STAAR or TELPAS depending on his or her needs and whether or not the student meets the eligibility criteria, if applicable.

For more information visit the Texas Education Agency at:

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar/>

<https://tea.texas.gov/accommodations/>