

What Families Should Know About STAAR



✓ STAAR **provides families information** to support their child's learning.

- Texas has made changes in recent years to ensure that all STAAR test questions and answers are made available to families. Families and educators can see what questions their children answered correctly and the school curriculum that is linked to each question.
- The [STAAR Report Card](#), available at [TexasAssessment.gov](https://www.texasassessment.gov), gives families even more information, including tips for how to support learning at home.

✓ STAAR is **not a high-stakes test** for students.

- While other states may have high-stakes testing, recent changes in Texas law have eliminated student-level promotion consequences associated with STAAR. Instead, STAAR is used to help identify ways to support a student academically.
- If a student's STAAR score indicates a "Does Not Meet Grade Level" on STAAR, districts must work with the student's family to provide support like free tutoring in the upcoming school year to help the student grow academically.
- In high school, STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) tests are one way for students to meet high school graduation requirements, but students can also use results from other assessments (e.g., PSAT, SAT, ACT, AP, TSIA) or meet the requirements of an individual graduation committee.

✓ STAAR is an important **part of academic recovery**.

- After two years of pandemic-related disruptions, it is more important than ever for teachers and families to have a clear picture of how students are performing academically so that proper support can be provided.
- STAAR is just one of many ways to measure student learning. It isn't meant to tell the whole story but should be combined with other measures like personal observations, teacher feedback, and grades to give families a more complete picture of their children's academic progress.

✓ STAAR **will be redesigned in the 2022–23** school year to better align with classroom instruction.

- More than 600 teachers and 200 students have provided input to ensure the [redesigned STAAR](#) better reflects the classroom experience.
- Ninety-two percent of teachers who reviewed the updated statewide test said the new questions will allow students to better demonstrate their knowledge.



Your child's participation in STAAR matters.

School systems have a responsibility to ensure their students are learning. Your child's participation in STAAR testing is important because their score reflects how well they are being taught year after year and factors into their school's rating.

Federal and state laws require that all eligible students participate in STAAR. Although state law provides families with the right to temporarily remove their child from a class or school activity if they have an objection to participation, it specifically does not allow families to do so to avoid a test.