

1. What is the district and open-enrollment charter school ASVAB requirement?

[Senate Bill 1843](#) requires each school year Texas districts and open-enrollment charter schools provide students in grades 10 through 12 an opportunity to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test or alternative test meeting the requirements of the law, and consult with a military recruiter. The law also requires the test must be scheduled during normal school hours and to optimize student participation, at a time that limits conflicts with extracurricular activities. Each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall also provide each student in grades 10 through 12 and the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student a notice of the date, time, and location of the scheduled administration of the ASVAB or alternative test.

2. What is the difference between the ASVAB and the ASVAB Career Exploration Program (ASVAB CEP)?

The ASVAB is an aptitude test that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success. The ASVAB CEP is a career planning and exploration program offered free to participating schools and students. The ASVAB CEP includes a validated ASVAB test and interest assessment. The results are used to guide career exploration for college, career, or military using the ASVAB CEP career planning tools. The enlistment version of the ASVAB is primarily given at a Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) and is used for recruiting purposes only. For more information on the ASVAB CEP, visit <https://www.asvabprogram.com/faq>.

3. Can the ASVAB CEP be used to enlist in the military?

Yes, if it was administered in the 11th or 12th grade and scores are not more than two years old. 11th and 12th grade and post-secondary students can use their ASVAB CEP Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT) scores to enlist for up to two years after testing. All 10th grade scores are invalid for enlistment purposes (regardless of age) and are not available through the United States Military Entrance Processing Command Integrated Resource System (USMIRS) database.

4. How is the ASVAB requirement reported to the Texas Education Agency (TEA)?

Districts and open-enrollment charter schools offering grades 10 through 12 report meeting the requirements of SB 1843 through the TSDS PEIMS Fall snapshot for the current school year. See data element "ARMED-SERVICES-VOC-APT-BATTERY-INDICATOR-CODE (E1625)" in the [2019-2020 Texas Education Data Standards \(TEDS\) Section 3.1 - Education Organization Category Description of Data Elements](#) for more information.

5. What does a district or open-enrollment charter school do if it did not meet the requirements of SB 1843 due to COVID-19 and the closing of Texas school facilities?

Districts may elect to submit a waiver to the TEA. Instructions on submitting a waiver for COVID-19 can be found on the [COVID-19 Support: District Waivers, Finance & Grants](#) page.

6. What will the TEA do if a district or open-enrollment charter school already reported in the 2019-2020 Fall Snapshot the district offers the ASVAB or alternative test, and the testing was not conducted due to Covid-19 and the closing of schools?

To fulfill the agency requirements of SB 1843, TEA reports districts and open-enrollment charter schools that did not report meeting the requirements of law on the [Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery \(ASVAB\)](#) page. TEA will post the list of districts and open-enrollment charter schools approved for waivers due to COVID-19 on the same page.

7. What should a district or open-enrollment charter school do if it offered the ASVAB or alternative test and met other requirements of SB 1843 but missed the 2019-2020 TSDS PEIMS Fall snapshot reporting deadline?

Districts and open-enrollment charter schools should maintain records of the ASVAB test or alternative test date, time, location and communications to students and parents, and other requirements of SB 1843. There is no alternative reporting option or appeal process if the data element was not reported or mis-reported in the 2019-2020 Fall submission.