

August 7, 2023

Subject: Selection for February 2024 Stand-Alone Field Test

To the Education Service Center and District Testing Coordinator Addressed:

The purpose of this communication is to notify local education agencies (LEAs) of their campus selections for participation in the required State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) Stand-Alone Field Test to be administered in February 2024.

February 2024 Administration

As previously announced, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will conduct a stand-alone field test for STAAR to ensure that sufficient extended constructed-response items are developed for future state assessments. The stand-alone field test will be administered online only and includes the following grades/subjects and courses:

- RLA grades 3–8
- English I and English II
- Spanish RLA grades 3–5

Participating LEAs may administer the stand-alone field test at any time during the testing window, **February 5–9, 2024**. Campuses should schedule 2–3 hours for the administration of the RLA field tests. Field-test forms will include one extended constructed-response item at most. The remainder of each form may vary in the type of test questions presented (e.g., multipart, multiple choice, multiselect, hot text, and short constructed response).

TEA will provide more specific details in the test administration instructions in December 2023. No paper test booklets, answer documents, or other print materials will be sent to LEAs, nor will LEAs receive field-test data or students' scores from this administration.

LEA Selection and Requirements

Lists of campus assignments for each LEA selected to participate in this mandatory field test are posted in the new Secure File Center of the [Test Information Distribution Engine](#) (TIDE). District testing coordinators can access their lists in TIDE or by using the Secure File Center link available on the [Testing Personnel](#) page of the Texas Assessment website. As required by Texas Education Code [Section 39.035](#), administering the February 2024 Stand-Alone Field Test is mandatory for campuses selected. District testing coordinators should review the campuses, grades, and courses assigned, and if any changes or updates are necessary, Texas Testing Support should be notified as soon as possible.

Selection for English RLA Stand-Alone Field Test

For the English version of the RLA field test, the campus sampling selection has been limited to a maximum of two grades or courses per campus to minimize the burden to students and campuses. The sampling plan for the English version of the field test excludes the following types of campuses:

- campuses newly established in the 2023–2024 school year
- campuses selected to administer the National Assessment of Educational Progress during the 2023–2024 school year

- campuses with an *F* rating for the 2021–2022 accountability year
- campuses identified as alternate campuses, residential treatment facilities, disciplinary alternative education programs, or juvenile justice alternative education programs

Census Spanish RLA Stand-Alone Field Test

Due to the limited number of students who take Spanish assessments, the Spanish RLA field test will be a census field test. **ALL** LEAs with students who will take the STAAR Spanish RLA assessments in spring 2024 will be required to administer the Spanish RLA field test in grades 3, 4, and 5.

Student Eligibility Requirements

All eligible students who are scheduled to take the corresponding STAAR assessments in spring 2024 are required to participate in the stand-alone field test. Emergent bilingual students and students with disabilities, with the exception of students who require an accommodation that is not available in the online field test, should participate. Braille, refreshable braille, and American Sign Language (ASL) videos are not available for the field test. Documentation about a student's participation or accommodations used in the field-test is not required in a student's paperwork.

- For grades 3–8, eligibility includes those students who are enrolled in the grade assigned to be field-tested.
- For end-of-course (EOC) assessments, eligibility includes those students who are enrolled in and completing the assigned course during the 2023–2024 school year, regardless of their enrolled grade.

TEA appreciates your continued support of these critical activities. If you have general questions about the stand-alone field test, contact TEA using the Student Assessment [Help Desk](#). If you have questions about your selection in the sample or accessing TIDE, contact Texas Testing Support at (833) 601-8821, TexasTestingSupport@cambiumassessment.com, or [TexasAssessment.gov via live chat](#).

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