

April 21, 2023

Subject: Time Allowed to Test for STAAR

To the Education Service Center and District Testing Coordinators Addressed:

The purpose of this communication is to provide clarification on the time allowed to test for administrations of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®).

STAAR assessments are designed so that students can complete them in about three hours. In past years, districts were able to provide students who meet the eligibility requirements for accommodation with extra time beyond the four- or five-hour maximum time allowed.

As a reminder, beginning this school year, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has removed the maximum time allowed for STAAR test administrations. Districts will no longer have to stop students from testing after a four- or five-hour testing period. Test sessions should be scheduled for three or four hours, however, any student who needs additional time may continue testing until the end of the regularly scheduled school day.

Because this testing policy is new this school year, TEA has provided additional flexibility for special circumstances. At the end of the school day, if a district has identified an individual student who may benefit from a few extra minutes to complete his or her test, then the district may allow the individual student to continue testing for a few extra minutes. This special allowance is only permitted if transportation arrangements have been made and the student's parents have been notified and agree to the few extra minutes of testing.

This special allowance should be made on an individual, case-by-case basis, and it has been provided to assist districts with local problem-solving for individual students in special circumstances (e.g., students who may have started testing late or had interruptions in testing). This special allowance is not for districts or campuses to schedule test sessions beyond the school day. As indicated in the [District and Campus Coordinator Manual](#), test sessions should be scheduled for three to four hours. If possible, campuses should dismiss students from the testing session at scheduled intervals. Test sessions should not be scheduled for the entire school day or beyond the school day.

If you have questions about this information or about the STAAR program, contact TEA using the Student Assessment [Help Desk](#).

Texas Education Agency  
Student Assessment Division  
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