

A Guide to the TAKS–M Texas Projection Measure in Spring 2011

1. What is the Texas Projection Measure for the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills–Modified (TAKS–M)?

The Texas Projection Measure (TPM) for TAKS–M is an estimate of whether a student is likely to meet the standard (pass) and/or achieve commended performance (obtain the highest performance level) on TAKS–M tests at a future grade. This measure is based on (1) a student’s current and prior year’s (if available) performance in the projected subject on TAKS–M and (2) the TAKS–M scores of other students in the same enrolled grade in the student’s school district.

2. Why did Texas develop the TPM?

Texas legislation requires the Texas Education Agency to measure student progress over time. The TPM was developed to meet that requirement.

3. In what grades and subjects will the TPM be reported for TAKS–M?

In 2011, the TAKS–M TPM is reported for grade 10 reading/English language arts (ELA), mathematics, science, and social studies.

4. Why would a student *not* have a TPM reported in 2011?

There are two reasons why a student would not have a TPM reported in 2011. First, a student who does not have enough test scores to calculate the TPM will not receive a projection. For example, if a student did not test this year in either ELA or mathematics, the student will not have a TPM in any subject. Second, a student who takes TAKS, including TAKS (Accommodated) or a linguistically accommodated test (LAT), in one subject and TAKS–M in another subject will not have a TPM reported.

5. What does “YES” mean? What does “NO” mean?

If a student has a “YES” for the TPM, it means that the student is estimated, or projected, to meet the standard and/or achieve commended performance on TAKS–M in grade 11. For instance, if a grade 10 student has “Texas Projection Measure—Projected to Meet Standard at Grade 11: YES” on his or her report for ELA, it means that the student is likely to meet the standard on the grade 11 ELA test after receiving instruction in grade 11. If the student’s report shows “Texas Projection Measure—Projected to Achieve Commended Performance at Grade 11: YES,” it means that the student is also likely to achieve commended performance on the grade 11 ELA test. Likewise, a “NO” means that the student is not projected to meet the standard on the test in grade 11. For instance, if a grade 10 student has “Texas Projection Measure—Projected to Meet Standard at Grade 11: NO” on his or her report for mathematics, it means that the student is not projected to meet the standard on the grade 11 mathematics test. Any student whose report shows a “NO” for “Projected to Meet Standard” will also receive a “NO” for “Projected to Achieve Commended Performance.” Projections about performance on TAKS–M in future grades can benefit students by helping parents and schools better understand where students need additional instruction and support to strengthen their skills. This projection can provide an additional piece of information for the student’s admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee to consider when planning future instruction.

6. If a grade 10 student has a “YES” for the TPM and is estimated to meet the standard (pass) on TAKS–M in grade 11, does that mean that the student will definitely pass in grade 11?

No. The TPM is only a projection. In other words, it is an estimate. Other factors may influence how the student will actually score on TAKS–M in a future grade.

7. Where can I go for more information about the TAKS–M TPM?

More information about the TAKS–M TPM is available on TEA’s Student Assessment Division website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/special-ed/taksm/tpm/index.html>.