ACTION OPTIONAL

January 9, 2009

TO THE INDIVIDUAL/ORGANIZATION ADDRESSED:

In accordance with the Texas Education Code, §39.033, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will make available for administration to private and home schools the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) for grades 3-10 and exit level and the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) tests at a per-student cost that does not exceed the cost of administering the same test to a Texas public school student.

Private and home schools may participate in the state assessment program by administering the secure tests, the tests previously administered that have been released to the public, or both.

Each private and home school choosing to administer the secure spring 2009 tests will be required to sign an agreement with the agency in which it agrees to maintain security and confidentiality of the test instruments, test all eligible students in all subjects at a particular grade level, follow all procedures specified in the applicable test administration materials, provide to the Commissioner of Education the information listed in the Texas Education Code, §39.051(b), and reimburse the agency for the cost of the assessment.

Private and home schools interested in participating in the spring 2009 assessments may obtain a copy of the agreement packet online at http://www.TexasAssessment.com or by contacting Pearson at 800-252-9186, **no later than January 26, 2009**. Released tests may be downloaded free of charge from the TEA website at www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment. There is no deadline for downloading released tests.

Assessment Contact Information
Texas Education Agency
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