



To the Administrator Addressed

DATE:	September 16, 2021
SUBJECT:	Texas Assessment Program Updates for the 2021 –22 School Year

annual training for other staff members. All testing personnel are required to receive training at least once in test security and administration procedures and are responsible for signing a test security oath and complying with state assessment requirements. Annual test administration training is strongly encouraged, especially for policies and practices that have changed.

In addition,

2022–23 and beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> x Assess 2017 reading and writing standards x Field test 2017 reading and writing standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> x Assess 2017 reading and writing standards x Field test 2017 reading and writing standards
-----------------------	--	--

Updated assessed curriculum documents for the 2021– 22 STAAR RLA assessments will be posted in the coming weeks. Blueprints for the STAAR RLA assessments are not changing for 2021 –22.

Note that there will be no changes to the STAAR mathematics, science, or social studies assessments for the 2021– 22 school year. However, more information about the STAAR redesign, including the transition to online assessments, will be provided in the coming months.

STAAR Online Testing Enhancements

With the new Cambium testing platform known as the Test Delivery System (TDS), students will have both Desmos and Texas Instruments graphing calculators as embedded calculators to use for the online STAAR grade 8 mathematics and Algebra I EOC assessments.

Additionally, districts can now select two distinct levels of support for online oral administrations beginning in December 2021. The online embedded text-to-speech (TTS) tool allows an eligible student to have either of the following support options:

- x Selecting any eligible test question and answer choice to be read aloud using the TTS tool, or
- x Having all eligible parts of the test be automatically read aloud in the order they are presented.

TELPASReading Grades 2–12 Braille Option

Beginning with the spring 2022 administration, TEA will now offer braille versions of TELPAS reading tests for grades 2–12. Any English learner may use this designated support if he or she routinely uses braille materials during classroom instruction and classroom testing.

Proposed TELPAS Standardized Writing Test

Based on educator feedback, TEA is exploring the development of a standardized writing assessment for TELPAS grades 2–12 to reduce the administration requirements for

educators . As part of the standard test development process, new items must be field tested. As a result, the spring 2022 TELPAS reading assessments will include embedded field -test items for writing. Further guidance on the reading assessment will be provided well in advance of the TELPAS assessment window so that districts can prepare accordingly.

If you have questions about the information in this communication, please submit your inquiries to TEA using the [Student Assessment Help Desk](#) .