

STAAR vs. SST: Side-by-Side Comparison

STAAR		Student Success Tool (SST) Begins Fall 2027
- Single end-of-year summative assessment - Measures student performance at one point during the school year	Purpose & Overall Design	- Required Beginning of Year (BOY) and Middle of Year (MOY) checkpoints for grades 3-8, optional BOY and MOY checkpoints for EOCs, and required End of Year (EOY) summative assessment for all - Provides multiple measures of student performance across the year
- Static assessment (same items for all students) - Online	Assessment Format	- BOY & MOY - TEA BOY and MOY assessments will be adaptive. RLA will adapt by passage set, while other eligible assessments will use item-level adaptivity - Districts may choose to administer an assessment from TEA's approved alternative list in place of the state BOY/MOY assessments. The state-developed BOY/MOY assessments are provided at no cost; districts are responsible for the cost of third-party alternatives - EOY - TEA will provide a required static assessment (all students receive the same items) - Online
Designed for most students to complete within 3 hours	Test Length	- Designed for most students to complete within: - Grades 3-4 → BOY/MOY: 60 min.; EOY: 90 min. - Grades 5-8 → BOY/MOY: 75 min.; EOY: 105 min. - EOC → To be determined
- One spring testing window (April/early May) consisting of over-lapping 2-week windows for each content area - Writing included in spring administration	Testing Windows	- BOY: Late August–Sept 30 - MOY: Jan 2–Feb 21 - RLA Extended Constructed Response: Apr 1-15 (separate early window) - EOY: May 1–30

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- Results are returned after the close of the statewide scoring and reporting process - Results are reported according to established TEA timelines	Data Return Timeline	- During Year 1, BOY and MOY results will be available after the testing window closes - Beginning in Year 2, BOY and MOY results will be available the same day a student tests. EOY results will be available within 48 hours after the testing window closes
- Grades 3–8 » RLA & Math: Grades 3–8 » Science: Grades 5 and 8 » Social Studies: Grade 8 » Spanish versions available: Grades 3–5 - EOCs » Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II, U.S. History	Grade Levels/ Content Areas Assessed	- Grades 3–8 » RLA & Math: Grades 3–8 » Science: Grades 5 and 8 » Social Studies: Grade 8 » Spanish versions available: Grades 3–5 - EOCs » Algebra I, Biology, English I, U.S. History
- Five EOCs required: » Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II, U.S. History	High School Impact	- Four EOCs required: » English II removed beginning in 2027–28 - BOY/MOY optional for EOCs - EOC graduation requirements remain the same for the classes of 2026 and 2027. Requirements for the class of 2028 and beyond are TBD
- Online supports available - Paper/braille available; Spanish versions (3–5) - Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities take the STAAR Alternate 2	Accommodations	- Online supports available - Fixed forms will be available for paper, Braille, ASL, and other special administrations; Spanish versions will remain available for grades 3–5 - Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities participate in an EOY alternate assessment; BOY and MOY are not required

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- Benchmark and interim assessments may be locally developed by districts or selected from vendors of their choosing - TEA will continue to provide optional STAAR Interims through 2026–27	Benchmark & Interim Assessments	- Districts may choose to administer BOY/MOY assessments from a TEA-provided approved list - BOY and MOY assessments serve as the required statewide progress-monitoring checkpoints under HB 8. Classroom formative assessments, unit assessments, and diagnostic tools used to guide instruction remain locally determined, subject to forthcoming TEA guidance
- All operational spring STAAR items are released annually - December and June EOCs, embedded field test items, and interim items are not released	Released Items	- All operational EOY SST items are released annually - BOY/MOY items will not be released
- End-of-year summative results are used in growth and achievement calculations - Assessment data used for A-F accountability ratings	Accountability Impacts	- Only EOY results are used for A-F accountability ratings for now - Reports will include Texas-specific within-year growth information for instructional use - EOY-to-EOY growth measures will remain
TEA provides a Family Portal for parents/guardians to access scores	Parent/Guardian Access	- Parents/guardians will continue to have access to their Family Portal - Parents/guardians can sign up for text notifications when results are available
- Administered in a single extended testing session - Same items presented to all students - Performance evidence collected during one testing administration - One testing window per year	Student Experience	- Administered across multiple shorter testing sessions during the school year - BOY and MOY assessments are adaptive; EOY is static - Performance evidence collected during multiple testing administrations - Multiple testing windows (BOY, MOY, EOY)