

**ATTACHMENT
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Chapter 101. Assessment

Subchapter A. General Provisions

§101.1. Scope of Rules.

- (a) The State Board of Education (SBOE) shall:
 - (1) create and implement the statewide assessment program to ensure the program supports the goals of education as specified in the Texas Education Code (TEC); and
 - (2) establish goals for the statewide assessment program.
- (b) When adopting rules, the SBOE shall maintain the stability of the statewide assessment program to the greatest extent possible in accordance with the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B.
- (c) The statewide assessment program consists of the following criterion-referenced tests:
 - (1) the assessments of academic readiness in English and Spanish for the grades and subjects as specified in the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B;
 - (2) the alternative assessments of academic readiness for eligible students receiving special education services as specified in the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B;
 - (3) the assessments required for graduation as specified in the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B; and
 - (4) the reading proficiency tests in English for eligible limited English proficient students as specified in the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B.

§101.3. Policy.

- (a) The goal of the statewide assessment program is to provide all eligible Texas students an appropriate statewide assessment that measures and supports their achievement of the essential knowledge and skills of the state-mandated curriculum.
- (b) To maximize its effectiveness for educators and students, the statewide assessment program shall be based on the following quality standards.
 - (1) Tests shall be aligned to the essential knowledge and skills of the state-mandated curriculum in all subject areas tested.
 - (2) Tests shall be reliable and valid measures of the essential knowledge and skills and shall be administered in a standardized manner.
 - (3) Test results at the student, campus, district, regional, and state levels shall be reported in a timely and accurate manner.

§101.5. Student Testing Requirements.

Every student receiving instruction in the essential knowledge and skills shall take the appropriate criterion-referenced assessments, as required by the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 39, Subchapter B.

Subchapter B. Implementation of Assessments

§101.25. Schedule.

- (a) The commissioner of education shall specify the schedule for testing and field testing that is in compliance with the Texas Education Code (TEC), §39.023(c-3)(1) and (2), and supports reliable and valid assessments.

- (b) The superintendent of each school district or chief administrative officer of each charter school and any private school administering the tests as allowed under the TEC, §39.033, shall be responsible for administering tests.
- (c) The commissioner of education may provide alternate dates for the administration of tests required for a high school diploma to students who are migratory children, as defined in the TEC, §39.029, and who are out of the state.
- (d) Participation in University Interscholastic League area, regional, or state competitions is prohibited on any days on which testing is scheduled between Monday and Thursday of the school week in which the primary administration of assessment instruments under the TEC, §39.023(a), (c), or (l), occurs.

Subchapter C. Local Option

§101.101. Group-Administered Tests.

- (a) An assessment instrument to which this section is applicable under the Texas Education Code (TEC), §39.032, is defined as any district-commissioned achievement test, either nationally normed or criterion-referenced, that is group administered and reported publicly (e.g., to the local board of trustees) in the aggregate. A test given for a special purpose such as program placement or individual evaluation (e.g., a spelling test, a diagnostic test such as a reading inventory or interim benchmark assessment, or a released statewide assessment instrument) is not included in this definition. The commissioner of education shall provide annually to school districts and charter schools a list of state-approved, norm-referenced group-administered achievement tests that test publishers certify meet the requirements of the TEC, §39.032.
- (b) A company or organization scoring a test defined in subsection (a) of this section shall send test results to the school district for verification. The school district shall have 90 days to verify the accuracy of the data and report the results to the school district board of trustees.
- (c) State and national averages for an assessment instrument under this section must be computed using data that are not more than eight years old at the time the assessment instrument is administered and that are representative of the group of students to whom the assessment instrument is administered. This eight-year limitation does not apply if only data older than eight years are available for an assessment instrument.
- (d) To maintain the security and confidentiality of group-administered achievement tests, school districts and charter schools shall follow the applicable procedures for test security and confidentiality delineated in §101.3031 of this title (relating to Required Test Administration Procedures and Training Activities to Ensure Validity, Reliability, and Security of Assessments).

§101.27. Administrative Procedures.

A school district, charter school, or private school administering the tests required by the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall follow procedures specified in the applicable test administration materials.

§101.31. Private Schools.

- (a) A private school administering the assessments under the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall follow procedures specified in the applicable test administration materials. Each private school shall maintain test security and confidentiality as delineated in the TEC, §39.030.
- (b) A private school administering the assessments under the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall reimburse the Texas Education Agency for each assessment administered. The per-student cost may not exceed the cost of administering the same assessment to a student enrolled in a school district.
- (c) A private school administering the assessments under the TEC, Chapter 39, Subchapter B, shall provide to the commissioner of education, as required by law and determined appropriate by the commissioner, academic excellence indicator information described in the TEC, §39.053(c) and §39.301(c). For indicator information defined and collected through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS), private schools shall follow the PEIMS Data Standards.

§101.33. Release of Tests.

Beginning in 2009 with the 2008-2009 school year and each subsequent third school year, the Texas Education Agency shall release all test items and answer keys only for primary administration assessment instruments administered under the Texas Education Code, §39.023(a), (b), (c), (d), and (l), and field test items that are at least four years old and that are no longer eligible for inclusion on a subsequent test form.