

When are the STAAR tests?

Each test is given three times a year to provide multiple testing opportunities for those who do not pass an assessment on the initial attempt.

The STAAR End-of-Course tests are offered in the fall, spring and summer of each year.

2017-18 STAAR END-OF-COURSE TEST ADMINISTRATION DATES

SUBJECT	FALL	SPRING	SUMMER
English I	December 4	April 10	June 25
English II	December 6	April 12	June 27
Biology	December 5 – 8	May 7- 11	June 26 - 29
Algebra			
U.S. History			

For additional information about STAAR

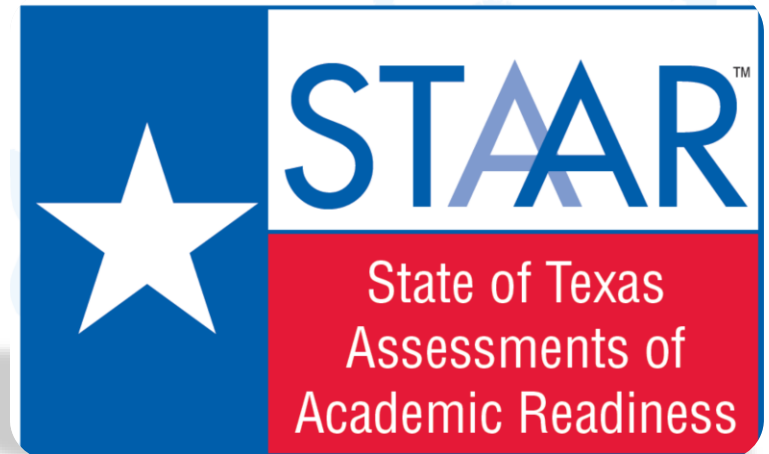
- Visit the Texas Education Agency, Student Assessment webpage at: <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/>
- Call the Assessment Department at: 956-554-2806
- Contact your child's school at: _____



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Understanding the **STAAR** Test End-of-Course



ASSESSMENT, RESEARCH &
EVALUATION DEPARTMENT
956-554-2806



Who takes the STAAR test?

Students who entered the ninth grade in the 2011-12 school year or later must pass the STAAR End-of-Course tests to graduate from a Texas public high school. This evaluation includes assessments in the following subjects:

English I
English II
Algebra I
Biology
U.S. History



How are the tests administered?

Each test can be taken either on paper or online. Students have four hours to complete the Algebra, Biology and U.S. History tests. They have five hours to complete the English I and English II exams.

What happens if a student completes the course and does not pass the test?

If a student passes the course but does not pass the test, the student may take the test again. However, a student is not required to retake a course just because he failed the test. The school is required to provide accelerated instruction to each student who does not show satisfactory performance on STAAR.

Will students who receive special education services take the STAAR?

The admission, review & dismissal (ARD) committee will determine the appropriate test for a student who receives special education services. Some students will take the general STAAR. Others will take the STAAR Alternate 2. The STAAR Alternate 2, however, is only available for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

How do I know if my child passed the test?

Student performance on the STAAR End-of-Course test is described by one of these four proficiency levels:



- **Masters Grade Level**-mastery of the course knowledge and skills is shown. Student is on-track for college and career readiness.
- **Meets Grade Level**-Strong knowledge of course content. Student is prepared to progress to the next grade.
- **Approaches Grade Level**-shows some knowledge of course content but may be missing critical elements. Student needs additional support.
- **Did not meet Grade Level**-shows a lack of basic understanding of course content. Student needs significant support.

If a student took an End-of-Course in middle school and passed, then the student is not required to retake the test in high school.

