

# STAAR End of Course Exams

## What do we know about STAAR?

- Will begin for grades 3-9 in 2011-12
  - Current sophomores, juniors and seniors as well as repeating freshmen will remain on TAKS through graduation
- At the high school level, the STAAR assessments are called End of Course (EOC) exams
- Will be “significantly more rigorous” than TAKS
- Shift the goal from HS Graduation to College and Career Success
- **Will impact grades, credits, and graduation**

## Phase-out of TAKS and Phase-in of EOC Assessments

	2011–2012	2012–2013	2013–2014	2014–2015
GR 9	EOC	EOC	EOC	EOC
GR 10	TAKS	EOC	EOC	EOC
GR 11	TAKS	TAKS	EOC	EOC
GR 12	TAKS*	TAKS*	TAKS*	EOC or TAKS*

*\*EOC begins in 2011-12 for first-time 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Any students repeating 9<sup>th</sup> grade and all upperclassmen will remain on the TAKS system.*

## High School STAAR EOC Assessments:

High School STAAR EOCs			
Math	English	Science	Soc Studies
Algebra I	Eng I	Biology	World Geo.
Geometry	Eng II	Chemistry	World Hist.
Algebra II	Eng III	Physics	U.S. History

The high school level STAAR tests are **COURSE tests, NOT grade level tests**

## STAAR: Longer Tests

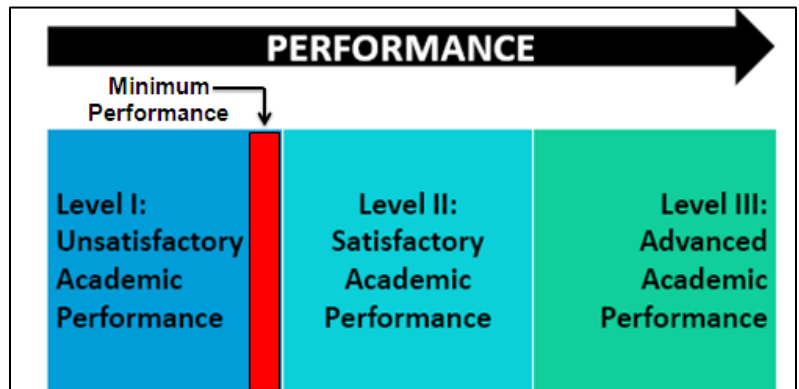
- Math 3-8: +6 questions
- Reading 3-8: +4 questions
- Writing 4/7: +1 composition
- Science 5/8: +4 questions
- Soc Studies 8: +4 questions
- EOC: +6 to 13 questions

## More Rigorous Items

- assessing content and skills at a greater depth and higher level of cognitive complexity
- assessing more than one standard in an item

## More Rigorous Test

- assessing standards multiple times and in more complex ways
- including a greater number of rigorous items on the test, thereby increasing the overall test difficulty
- Increased performance standards (passing levels)



**Graduation Requirements: A Comparison between TAKS & STAAR**

Graduation Requirements	
TAKS	STAAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 10 Exams                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 4 Stand-Alone Exams</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 26 Credits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 15 Exams                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2 Stand-Alone Exams (Alg 2 / Eng 3)</li> <li>○ Cumulative Score in Each Subject (15 exams in 12 contents)                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Minimum Floors in every exam</li> <li>○ In subjects never tested before (Alg 2, Physics, World Geo, etc.)</li> <li>○ Higher rigor, higher standards</li> <li>○ Longer tests, 4hr time limits</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Distinguished &amp; LT Scholars:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Students must achieve Advanced Performance in Algebra 2 &amp; English 3 for DAP</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 26 Credits: Tied to 15%...</li> </ul>

**Cumulative Score Requirements:**

**Cumulative Score:** (An Example)

Passing: 70 / Minimum: 65  
Cumulative = 210

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bio: 69</li> <li>■ Chem: 71</li> <li>■ Physics: 68</li> </ul>	<p>Cumulative Avg: <b>69.3</b></p> <p><i>(Has not met the cumulative score)</i></p> <p><b>No Graduation!</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bio: <b>64</b></li> <li>■ Chem: 71</li> <li>■ Physics: 76</li> </ul>	<p>Cumulative Avg: 70.3</p> <p><i>(Met cumulative but Bio did not meet Minimum)</i></p> <p><b>No Graduation!</b></p>

**Cumulative Score FAQ:**

19. What are the STAAR graduation requirements for students who complete a high school course prior to spring 2012, the first high-stakes administration of STAAR EOC assessments?

A student who has STAAR as his or her graduation requirement and who has completed a high school course prior to spring 2012 (e.g., a grade 8 student who completed Algebra I during the 2010–2011 school year or a freshman who will complete English I in the first semester of the 2011–2012 school year) is not required to take that specific STAAR EOC assessment to fulfill his or her graduation requirement. As a result, the student’s cumulative score will be based on fewer assessments. However, the student could choose to take the assessment beginning in spring 2012 and has the option of using the score in his or her cumulative score. Scores on EOC assessments taken prior to spring 2012 will not count towards a student’s cumulative score.

## 15% Considerations:

### Texas Education Code 30.023(c)

A school district... shall adopt a policy that requires a student's performance on an end-of-course assessment instrument in which the student is enrolled to account for 15 percent of the student's final grade for the course.

### EOC 15% Consideration Areas

1. Grading
2. Retakes
3. Course Credit
4. Conversion Scale
5. GPA/Class Rank

### 1. Grading: 15% of the Final Grade

#### Required Policy Change (EIA Local):

The End of Course exam shall count 15% of the final grade for the course as reported on the student's transcript

#### Grading Considerations:

- Will continue midterms & finals
  - Midterm = 15% of fall / Final = 15% of spring)
- Final Grade = Fall (42.5) + Spring (42.5) + EOC (15) = 100%

\*Exam exemptions for STAAR students will look different

### 2. Retakes

- A student may retake an EOC at any time according the testing schedule (required)
- Students will retake an EOC exam until a minimum score, as determined by the Texas Commissioner of Education, is achieved (required)

#### Policy (EIA Local):

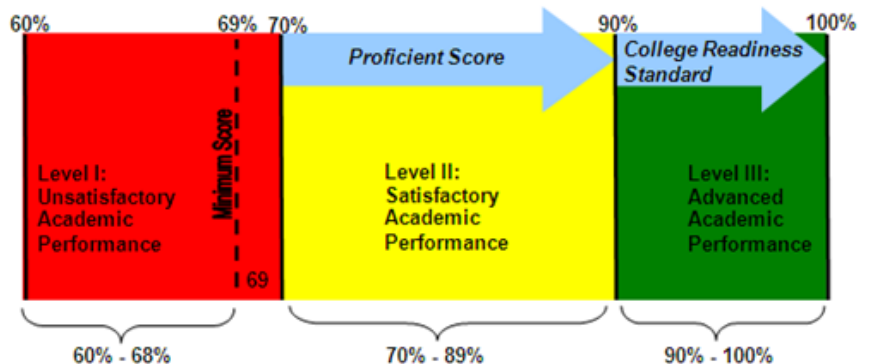
Retakes of EOC will be included as 15% of the student's final course grade only if the retake score allows a student to gain credit for the course. After a student earns credit for a course, subsequent retakes scores will not be included in the calculation of the final grade

### 3. Course Credit – Possible Model

In courses where students are required to take an EOC exam, students may earn 0.5 credits for any semester where a grade of 70% or higher is earned, however students must earn a yearly average score equal to or greater than seventy percent (70%) in order to earn 1.0 credit for the course.

### 4. Conversion Scale – Possible Model

Possible Model: Conversion Scale would be on a 100 point scale based on "Anchor Points" based on the TEA cut points for Unsatisfactory, Minimum, Satisfactory and Advanced Achievement and would be converted on a graduated scale



## 5. Class Rank & GPA

### Concerns with including EOC in GPA/Class Rank:

- Uncertainty of new/unknown exam (evidenced by the TEA's phase-ins of standards)
- Impact of possible future legislative action
- Impact of students transferring from other districts with other conversion scales
- No statewide conversion model
- Impact of other conversion models on college admissions
- Impact of the cohort phase-in model (GPAs based on exams with different performance standards)
- Would necessitate inclusion of high school coursework taken at MS be included in GPA

### **Preparing for STAAR EOCs:**

- Teacher Training in STAAR (Summer 2011)
- District Assessment Creation (CBAs)
- Policy & Procedures Development (w/15%)
- Regional Collaboration with CenTex Districts
- Communication with Parents, Students, Community

### **Preparing YOU for STAAR!**

- **Grades:** Aim for the highest grade in the course possible (so that you won't be in jeopardy with the EOC)
- **CBAs:** Take these seriously, try to do your best, and pay attention to how they're different than normal tests/quizzes!
- **STAAR:** Shoot for the HIGHEST score possible, because the tests will get harder as you go...

### **Resources:**

TEA STAAR Website:

[www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/staar)

LTISD STAAR Website:

[www.ltidschools.org/staar](http://www.ltidschools.org/staar)

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