



educator committees are held in Austin with travel, hotel, and meals provided.

### [Application Form](#)

#### **2018 Teacher Institutes**

TEA will be conducting teacher institutes again this summer. The institutes will cover reading/language arts, mathematics, and science for grades 3-8 and high school. TEA is encouraging highly-qualified Texas educators to apply. The week-long institutes are currently scheduled to be held in Austin. Week 1 for reading/language arts is currently scheduled July 16-20, and week 2 for mathematics and science is scheduled for July 23-27. Teachers will receive compensation for their work and have their travel, lodging, and meal expenses covered. More specific information about the 2018 Teacher Institutes is coming soon. Use the link below to complete an application to participate in the teacher institutes.

### [Application Form](#)

#### **Texas Student Data System**

TEA is beginning the necessary research to enable the transition from the Publ

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members of our team onsite at the ETS support center to assist with policy questions and give us more bandwidth in providing you with the assistance you need. I want to thank you for your patience and grace under pressure as agency staff addressed your concerns in April. I look forward to two more successful weeks of testing coming up.

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## Test Administration Updates

### **Change in TELPAS Reporting Dates**

Initial standard reports for the 2018 Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) administration will not be available on May 14 as indicated in the 2018 Calendar of Events. Reports will only be available on the final report date, August 15. However, data files will still be available on May 14. The data files will include only raw scores. Updated data files that include scale scores will be available after performance standards are established.

### **Medical Exemptions for STAAR**

With the implementation of the new accountability system in 2018, TEA has developed a new process for indicating a medical exemption from the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®). A student must be absent during the entire testing window in order for the district to use the medical exemption. To ensure that participation rates are not impacted by students who have experienced a significant medical event, the agency will more closely monitor participation rates for schools and districts.

[More Information](#)

### **Transcribing Student Responses**

As a reminder, student responses recorded in the test booklet may be transcribed onto an answer document. This change is a departure from previous years, as well as information in current test administration materials.

[More Information](#)

### **Technology Enhanced Item Pilot**

As a reminder, TEA is introducing technology-enhanced items (TEI) that create more engaging content and allow for demonstration of higher order thinking skills. The agency is piloting a few TEI items during the May 2018 STAAR online administrations for grades 3, 4, 6, and 7

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[2017-2018 School Year](#) raw score conversion tables for April 2018 STAAR grades 5 and 8 mathematics and reading

2017-2018 Interpreting Assessment Reports (coming soon)

Calculating the STAAR Progress Measure (coming soon)

Measure (coming soon)

Progress Measure Questions and Answers (coming soon)

STAAR On-Track Measure Questions and Answers (coming soon)



109,678 the total number of STAAR tests administered online

17% the percent increase in the number of online testers from March 2017

Here are some interesting numbers from the 2017-2018 Texas Writing Pilot.

16 the number of ESC regions participating

72 the number of districts/charter schools participating

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