

STATE PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS



STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVE

5TH Grade

Students must pass the STAAR mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to the sixth grade.

8TH Grade

Students must pass the STAAR mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to the ninth grade.

STAAR Testing at Grades 5 and 8

Students have three opportunities to pass the STAAR mathematics test and three opportunities to pass the STAAR reading test—two during the spring and one during the summer. The exact test dates are available at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/calendars/>.



If you have questions about the state requirements for the SSI, please contact your school's principal or go to TEA's website at <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/ssi/>.

For information about ordering additional copies of this brochure, call 855-333-7770.



Texas Education Agency

Student Assessment Division
Curriculum Standards and
Student Support Division



Prepare for Success

A PARENT GUIDE
TO THE

Student Success Initiative

AT GRADES 5 AND 8



REVISED AUGUST 2019

The Student Success Initiative

State Law Requirements

The Student Success Initiative (SSI) was created by the Texas Legislature to ensure that all students receive the instruction and support they need to be academically successful in mathematics and reading.

Under the SSI grade advancement requirements, students are required to pass the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) grade 5 mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to sixth grade. Students are required to pass the STAAR grade 8 mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to ninth grade.

What Happens at Grades 5 and 8?

Students in grades 5 and 8 have three opportunities to pass the STAAR mathematics test and three opportunities to pass the STAAR reading test. If a student does not pass one or both tests, the school must provide the student with accelerated instruction after each testing opportunity, and the student must participate in that accelerated instruction. Parents will be notified if their child does not pass one of these STAAR tests that are required for promotion.

If a student has not passed the STAAR mathematics and/or reading test at grade 5 or 8 after the second testing opportunity, a grade placement committee (GPC) is formed. The GPC, which consists of the principal, teacher, and parent or guardian, will create an instructional plan based on the individual needs of the student.

Parents' Role in the Process

A student who does not pass the STAAR mathematics and/or reading test at grade 5 or 8 after the third testing opportunity will be automatically retained. However, the student's parent or guardian may appeal the decision to have their child repeat the grade by submitting a request to the GPC within five working days of receiving the retention notice. The GPC may decide to promote a student to the next grade, but only if everyone on the committee unanimously agrees that the student is likely to succeed in the next grade. Even if the GPC decides to promote the student, the student must participate in the required accelerated instruction to be promoted.

Parents may request a waiver of the third testing opportunity if they do not want their child to test. If the waiver is approved, the student is automatically retained, but the parents may still appeal the retention. A student must participate in all accelerated instruction required by the GPC, even if the third testing opportunity is waived.

For information about how SSI applies to students who receive special education services, check with the special education contact on your campus.

Each year, students who take a STAAR test receive a STAAR Report Card which provides more information about how they performed and in which areas they may need additional support.

Follow
**4 EASY
STEPS** to...



1

Get your child's **Unique Access Code** from the cover of their STAAR Report Card.

2

Visit
TexasAssessment.gov.



3



Log In with your child's Unique Access Code or click the Find My Access Code link at TexasAssessment.gov.

4

Learn More about your child's performance, test questions and responses, and how you can provide additional support at home.



AS PARENTS, YOU ARE CRITICAL PARTNERS IN YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is committed to making sure you are informed and have an accurate picture of your child's progress. Follow these 4 steps to Log in & Learn More.

