

2015 Bridge Studies for Accountability

Revised mathematics TEKS curriculum standards

- Adopted by the SBOE in April 2012
- Implemented in K–8 classrooms during the 2014–2015 school year
- First assessed with STAAR mathematics at grades 3–8 in spring 2015

Special operational assessment versus overlap assessment

- Degree of content overlap between the new and old TEKS in grades 3–8 is not very high — especially for grades 7 and 8
- Due to the lack of content overlap, TEA made the decision to administer grades 3–8 mathematics assessments in spring 2015 that would
 - cover the new assessed curriculum (readiness and supporting standards)
 - follow a new blueprint aligned to the adopted curriculum
 - include new reference materials
- STAAR mathematics assessments in spring 2015 will align to the TEKS implemented in the state for that school year

2015 accountability

- SSI suspended so that students will not yet be held to new standards
- Districts will be held to the old performance standards
 - link will establish equivalent performance standards from the old STAAR mathematics tests to the new spring 2015 STAAR grades 3–8 mathematics tests
 - referred to as a “bridge study”

Bridge study

- Although not sufficient for an overlap form, there is sufficient shared and related content to map old performance standards onto the new mathematics assessments
 - Even with the revised curriculum standards, the construct being measured by both assessments is still mathematics
 - The bridge study takes item difficulty into consideration when locating the performance standards
 - If the items covering the new curriculum end up being quite difficult, students will have to answer fewer items correctly in order to meet the standard
- The bridge is established through multiple statistical methods that map the old standards to the new assessments
 - Use of common items appearing on both the old and the new version of the STAAR mathematics assessments
 - Use of a matched sample of similar students to compare performance on the old and the new version of the STAAR mathematics assessments
 - Evaluation of the statistical mapping using 2015 impact data
 - Approach approved by the Texas Technical Advisory Committee and used when transitioning from TAKS to STAAR
- The bridge will be done for the Phase-in 1 Level II, Final Recommended Level II, and Level III performance standards