

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025-26 HISD ASSESSMENT CALENDAR (08.25.25) v1
*Future revisions will be denoted in the color "ORANGE."

Click here for additional ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE resources. More details about each assessment can be found in the ASSESSMENT HANDBOOK

Unit Test (Curriculum-Aligned District Formative Assessments - CADFA)

FALL 2025

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode
AUGUST 2025 First Day of School 8.12 Grading Cycle 1: 8.12-09.19										
Credit-By-Exam (CBE) #1 (can be used for current year acceleration)	8.04-8.15	8.05-8.15	State	To determine if students qualify for advance grade placement and used for course credit	K-12	Required for students with a parent testing request	Seat Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test Max Total Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test	Does not impact instructional day; individual students are pulled out as needed.	Test available in English only for all content tests. Foreign language CBEs are available in their respective language.	Online
(BOY) DIBELS/Lectura *Dyslexia Screener/Early Childhood Data Collection per TEA (2nd Grade only)	8.18-9.19 Labor Day 9.01 Staff PD 9.02	8.19-9.19	State	To collect early childhood data, monitor progress, group students for interventions & support To identify students needing reading interventions for word reading accuracy & fluency	K-2* NES and PUA	Required	Seat Time: 5-8 minutes per student Max Total Time: Approx. 60 mins daily	Testing is individual student pull-out. (RLA teacher of record as test administrator). Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences. RAN is administered for 2nd grade BOY - TEA Requirement.	Required to test in English and Spanish for all K-2 students participating in a Transitional or Dual Language program.	Online
(BOY) NWEA MAP Growth *GT Achievement Testing-Referrals and Universals Enrolled K-8	8.19 Math 8.20 Reading 8.21 Science	8.20-8.29	District - Math and Science State - Reading	To monitor progress, group students for interventions & support. NWEA scores will be used for G/T achievement scores for universal and students who have been referred for G/T testing.	K-8 Math including students enrolled in Algebra I 2-8 RLA 2-8 Science	Required	Seat Time: K-2: 25 minutes, 2-5: 40 minutes, 6+: 55 minutes and course specific Max Total Time: K-2: 40 minutes, 2-5: 65 minutes, 6+: 90 minutes and course specific	School shut down instruction first two hours of day; adjust remainder of day to continue instruction. Ensure no one class is skipped more than once.	Grades 2nd-5th RLA: Transitional or Dual Language Program - English and Spanish *Spanish assessment is completed on Tuesday of make-up week. Grades 6th-8th RLA: Dual Language campuses - English and Spanish *Spanish assessment is completed on Tuesday of make-up week. Math: Language identified by district per student Science: English only	Online
(BOY) NWEA MAP Growth (High School)	8.19-8.22 Biology 8.19-8.22 Geometry	8.20-8.29	District - Math and Science	To monitor progress, group students for interventions & support.	HS students enrolled in Biology and Geometry.	Required	Seat Time: 55 minutes Max Total Time: 90 minutes	Complete assessment during scheduled class - Biology or Geometry. Testing window supports block scheduling. Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences.	Geometry: English only Biology: English only	Online
Reading Fluency *Previous gr. 6 students who Did Not Meet (DNM) the passing standard for the 2025 Spring Reading STAAR	8.26-9.19 Labor Day 9.01 Staff PD 9.02	8.27-9.19	State	To identify students needing reading interventions for word reading accuracy & fluency	7*	OPTIONAL	Seat Time: 20 minutes	Complete assessment within Reading block, then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	N/A	Online
SEPTEMBER 2025 Grading Cycle 1: 8.12-09.19 Grading Cycle 2: 9.22-10.31										
(BOY) CIRCLE Pre-K Early Childhood Data Collection per TEA	9.03-10.07	9.04- 10.07	State	To collect Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 data, monitor progress, group students for interventions and support	Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4	Required	Seat Time: 5-10 minutes per student Max Total Time: Approx. 60 mins daily	Testing is administered individually. Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences.	Use student home language (English or Spanish) along with EB indicator code in PowerSchool. The Head Start teacher/classroom with follow the same guidance as the HISD teacher/classroom.	Online

*Subject to change per HISD Cabinet updates

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode
GT Testing (K-12) - Enrolled <i>Referrals and Universals</i> *BOY NWEA MAP scores will be used K-8 enrolled students' achievement scores.	9.08 - 9.19	9.22 - 9.26	State	To qualify for the Gifted & Talented program	K-1: NWEA Reading and CogAT 2-8: CogAT 9-12: NWEA Reading & Math and CogAT *BOY NWEA MAP scores will be used K-8 enrolled students' achievement scores.	Universal Grade 2 is required. Required for 5th and 8th grade students who score at the 80th achievement percentile or higher on NWEA MAP Growth Reading & Math BOY. All parent, teacher, student, or campus referrals are required to be tested. Students who are already identified G/T in all areas should not be tested.	CogAT Seat Time: 30 minutes - 1 hour Max Total Time: 60 minutes NWEA Seat Time: K-2: 25 minutes, 2-5: 40 minutes, 6+: 55 minutes and course specific Max Total Time: K-2: 40 minutes, 2-5: 65 minutes, 6+: 90 minutes and course specific	Students take one Abilities assessment (CogAT) and two Achievement assessments (Math and Reading - NWEA MAP Growth). The Gifted and Talented Department determines qualification for GT.	Campus in collaboration with LPAC and/or Parent Request will determine language for assessment.	Online
GT Testing (K-12) - Non-Enrolled	9.08 - 9.19	9.22 - 9.26	District	To qualify for the Gifted & Talented program	K-12: NWEA Reading & Math and CogAT	All parent or student referrals submitted are required to be tested.	CogAT Seat Time: 30 minutes - 1 hour Max Total Time: 60 minutes NWEA Seat Time: K-2: 25 minutes, 2-5: 40 minutes, 6+: 55 minutes and course specific Max Total Time: K-2: 40 minutes, 2-5: 65 minutes, 6+: 90 minutes and course specific	Students take one Abilities assessment and two Achievement assessments (Math and Reading). The Gifted and Talented Department determines qualification for GT.	Parent request will determine language for assessment.	Online
GT - Entering Kindergarten (EK) Testing *Parent Requests includes enrolled and non-enrolled students.	9.22 - 10.03 <i>Staff PD 10.02</i> <i>Fall Holiday 10.03</i>	10.06 - 10.10	District	To qualify for Gifted and Talented Vanguard	PK4 Entering Kindergarten 2026 - 2027	Required for Vanguard testing (parent request)	CogAT (Verbal, Nonverbal, Quantitative) Seat Time: 90-120 minutes	Students will take the CogAT abilities assessment. Assessment must be administered with no more than 5 students at a time. It is strongly recommended to complete this assessment in 2-3 days. Required 15-30 minute break between each battery. The Gifted and Talented Department determines qualification for GT.	Campus in collaboration with LPAC and/or Parent Request will determine language of assessment.	Paper
OCTOBER 2025 Grading Cycle 2: 9.22-10.31										
Preliminary SAT (PSAT) 8/9	10.15	10.16-10.17	State	To measure the knowledge and skills of students' learning in school; the same knowledge and skills that matter most for college and career readiness	8-9	Required for all 8th and 9th graders	Seat Time: 2 hrs. 30 minutes Max Total Time: 2 hrs. 30 minutes	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Schools can request testing supports for English learners through College Board.	Online
PSAT/NMSQT			State	To measure the same Reading, Writing, and Math skills students learn in the classroom; the same knowledge and skills your child needs to succeed in college and career	10-11	Required for all 10th and 11th graders				
Fall Student Survey	10.16	10.17-10.31	District	To gather student perception on classroom experience for teachers	3-12	Required for students of teachers who have opted-in	Seat Time: 1 hour	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	The student survey will be offered in the languages listed here (Arabic, Bengali, Cebuano, Chuukese, English, Spanish, French, Hawaiian, Haitian Creole, Ilokano, Japanese, Korean, Marshallese, Pashto, Portuguese, Russian, Samoan, Swahili, Tagalog, Tongan, Urdu, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese). Students will be able to select their preferred language before beginning the survey to ensure they can fully understand and engage with the questions.	Online

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode
Postsecondary Mindsets & Durable Skills Survey	10.16	10.17-10.31	District	To gather student mindsets on postsecondary topics and their self-assessment of key durable skills	6-12	Required	Seat Time: 1 hour	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	The student survey will be offered in the languages listed here (Arabic, Bengali, Cebuano, Chuukese, English, Spanish, French, Hawaiian, Haitian Creole, Ilokano, Japanese, Korean, Marshallese, Pashoto, Portuguese, Russian, Samoan, Swahili, Tagalog, Tongan, Urdu, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese). Students will be able to select their preferred language before beginning the survey to ensure they can fully understand and engage with the questions.	Online
Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2) #1 Students may only be tested in the official window.	10.22	10.23-10.24	State	To determine whether students are ready for entry-level college coursework in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.	10-12	Grades 10-12: Students needing TSIA for Spring Dual Credit course enrollment Grade 12: TCB student certificate earned but have not met college ready score on TSIA2.0; Not college ready and not in Texas College Bridge (TCB).	Seat Time: 1-5 hours Max Total Time: 5 hours	Pull subset of students to test the first 1.5 hours of the day. Students continue instruction as normal after testing is complete.	Test available in English only.	Online
Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) School Day	10.22	10.23-10.24	State	To determine college admission & scholarships; Also used for accelerated testers to demonstrate Math/Reading skills in High School for accountability	12	Required for 12 graders with no SAT score	Seat Time: 3 hours (online 2 hours and 14 min)	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Schools can request testing supports for English learners through College Board.	Online
Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)	10.27-11.14 <i>Staff PD 11.07</i>	10.28-11.14	State	To measure developed abilities for the military and helps predict future academic and occupational success	9-12	Optional	Seat Time: 90 minutes (self-paced online test); 3 hours (paper test) Max Total Time: 2.5 hours (self-paced online test); 3 hours (paper test)	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Test available in English only.	Paper/Online
NOVEMBER 2025 Grading Cycle 3: 11.03-12.19										
Credit-By-Exam (CBE) #2 <i>(not to be used for mid-year acceleration)</i>	11.10-11.14	11.11-11.14	State	To determine if students qualify for advance grade placement and used for course credit	K-12	Required for students with a parent testing request	Seat Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test Max Total Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test	Does not impact instructional day; individual students are pulled out as needed.	N/A	Online
MOY Language Assessment Progress Monitoring (Summit K12)	11.18	11.19	District	To progress monitor for language acquisition in listening, speaking and writing	2-12	Required for EBs	Seat Time: Various; average 2 hrs/test Max Total Time: Various; average 2.5 hrs/test	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule. Non-EBs will continue instruction as usual	Test available in English only.	Online
Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2) #2 Students may only be tested in the official window.	11.19	11.20-11.21	State	To determine whether students are ready for entry-level college coursework in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.	10-12	Grades 10-12: Students needing TSIA for Spring Dual Credit course enrollment Grade 12: TCB student certificate earned but have not met college ready score on TSIA2.0; Students not college ready and not in TCB; Students planning to enroll in MATH 1314 or ENGL 1301 in spring	Seat Time: 1-5 hours Max Total Time: 5 hours	Pull subset of students to test the first 1.5 hours of the day. Students continue instruction as normal after testing is complete.	Test available in English only.	Online
DECEMBER 2025 Grading Cycle 3: 11.03-12.19										
STAAR End-of-Course (EOC)	12.02 English I 12.03 US History 12.04 English II 12.05 Algebra I 12.08 Biology	12.03-12.12	State	To measure end-of-year learning for first time & retesters; state and federal accountability; graduation requirement	9-12	All students who have failed EOC required to re-test. All students who have not taken EOC but completed course required to re-test.	Seat Time: 3.5 hrs /subject test Max Total Time: 7 hours	Pull required testers in the morning and have students resume normal instruction after completion.	Test available in English only.	Online

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode
Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2) #3 Students may only be tested in the official window.	12.10	12.11-12.12	State	To determine whether students are ready for entry-level college coursework in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.	10-12	Grades 10-12: Students needing TSIA for Spring Dual Credit course enrollment Grade 12: TCB student certificate earned but have not met college ready score on TSIA2.0; Students not college ready and not in TCB; Students planning to enroll in MATH 1314 or ENGL 1301 in spring	Seat Time: 1-5 hours Max Total Time: 5 hours	Pull subset of students to test the first 1.5 hours of the day. Students continue instruction as normal after testing is complete.	Test available in English only.	Online
Semester 1 HS Course DSAs	12.11-12.19	1.06-1.09	District	To assess students' learning at the end of the semester	Art of Thinking (AoT) World Geography (Regular & PreAP) World History (Regular & PreAP) English III Algebra II IPC Physics	Required	Seat Time: Typically 60-75 minutes Max Total Time: 90 minutes	Test during campus-created semester exam schedule. Test the on the first available date of the window based on campus schedule. Schedule should include time for make-ups.	Test available in English only.	Online
Semester 1 CTE FPOS & AI DSAs	12.11-12.19	1.06-1.09	District	To assess students' learning at the end of the semester	Foundations of AI Foundational Programs of Study (FPOS) CTE Courses	Required	Seat Time: Typically 60-75 minutes Max Total Time: 90 minutes	Test during campus-created semester exam schedule. Test the on the first available date of the window based on campus schedule. Schedule should include time for make-ups.	Test available in English only.	Online
AP Seminar Individual Research Report (IRR) - Draft	12.12	12.15-12.19	State	Requirement for the student's AP score	9-12	Required	N/A	N/A	N/A	Online
AP Seminar Team Project and Presentation (TMP) - Final										
Semester 1 HS Course Final Exams	12.15-12.19	1.06-1.09	State	To assess students' learning at the end of the semester	9-12	Required for HS students	Seat Time: 1-2 hrs per exam Max Total Time: 1-2 hrs per exam	Test during campus-created final exam schedule. Test the on the first available date of the window based on campus schedule. Schedule should include time for make-ups.	Test available in English only.	Online
Semester 1 6-8 Social Studies DSA	12.16-12.17	12.18-12.19	District		6-8	Required	Seat Time: Typically 60-75 minutes	Test during instructional block.	Test available in Spanish/English. (only for Spanish Dual Language campuses)	Online
Semester 1 3-8 AoT DSA					3-8 (Campuses with AoT)		Max Total Time: 90 minutes	Test the first available date of the window based on campus schedule.	Test available in English only.	
Industry Based Certification (IBC) Module Based	12.19	1.12-1.30	State	All module-based assessments should be completed by 1/30/2026	9-12	Students enrolled in CTE programs of study are expected to take IBC certification exams.	Seat Time: 2-5 hours (varies by certification exam)	Varies by certification exam. Ex: Some certs need a trained proctor other than a teacher. Some certs require an off-site testing site.	N/A	Online
SPRING 2026										
JANUARY 2026 Grading Cycle 4: 1.06-2.20										
(MOY) CIRCLE Pre-K Early Childhood Data Collection per TEA	1.07-2.06 MLK Holiday 1.19	1.08-2.06	State	To collect Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 data, monitor progress, group students for interventions and support	Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4	Required	Seat Time: 5-10 minutes per student Max Total Time: Approx. 60 mins daily	Testing is administered individually. Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences.	Use student home language (English or Spanish) along with EB indicator code in PowerSchool. The Head Start teacher/classroom with follow the same guidance as the HISD teacher/classroom.	Online
(MOY) DIBELS/Lectura *Dyslexia Screener/Early Childhood Data Collection per TEA (1st Grade Only) Deadline 1.31 per TEA	1.07-1.31 MLK Holiday 1.19	1.08-1.31	State	To collect early childhood data, monitor progress, group students for interventions & support Dyslexia screening must be completed by the last day of January 2024 (per TEA).	K-1 PUA K-2 NES	Required	Seat Time: 5-8 minutes per student Max Total Time: Approx. 60 mins daily	Testing is individual student pull-out. (RLA teacher of record as test administrator). Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences. RAN is administered to 1st grade MOY - TEA Requirement.	Required to test in English and Spanish for all K & 1 students participating in a Transitional or Dual Language program. 2nd test in English only.	Online

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode
(MOY) NWEA MAP Growth	1.13 Math 1.14 Reading 1.15 Science	1.14-1.23	District - Math State - Reading District - Science	To monitor progress, group students for interventions & support	K-8 Math including students enrolled in Algebra I 2-8 RLA 2-8 Science	Required	Seat Time: K-2: 25 minutes, 2-5: 40 minutes, 6+: 55 minutes and course specific Max Total Time: K-2: 40 minutes, 2-5: 65 minutes, 6+: 90 minutes and course specific	School shut down instruction first two hours of day; adjust remainder of day to continue instruction. Ensure no one class is skipped more than once.	Grades 2nd-5th RLA: Transitional or Dual Language Program - English and Spanish *Spanish assessment is completed on Tuesday of make-up week. Grades 6th-8th RLA: Dual Language campuses - English and Spanish *Spanish assessment is completed on Tuesday of make-up week. Math: Language identified by district per	Online
(MOY) TEA STAAR Interim	1.21 English I and English II 1.22 Algebra I (All EOCs, except Biology and U.S. History)	1.23-1.29	District	To monitor progress, group students for interventions & support; To be used for teacher appraisal evaluations	HS students enrolled in EOCs (Alg I, Eng I, Eng II)	Required for first-time testers only *No Re-testers	Seat Time: 3 hours/subject test Max Total Time: 7 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Test available in English only for EOC content areas; Language accommodations available to EBs	Online
(MOY) NWEA MAP Growth (High School)	1.26-1.29 Biology 1.26-1.29 Geometry	1.27-1.29	District - Math and Science	To monitor progress, group students for interventions & support.	HS students enrolled in Biology and Geometry.	Required	Seat Time: 55 minutes Max Total Time: 90 minutes	Complete assessment during scheduled class - Biology or Geometry. Testing window supports block scheduling. Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences.	Geometry: English only Biology: English only	Online
SAT Practice Test (Bluebook)	1.22	1.23-1.29	District	To determine a baseline for students before taking the SAT	11	Required for Grade 11 students only in General ED English and Math classes	Seat Time: 3 hours (online 2 hours and 14 min)	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Schools can request testing supports for English learners through College Board.	Online
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) *Selected Schools Sample	1.26-3.20 Staff PD 2.13 President's Day 2.16 Spring Break 3.09-3.13	1.28-3.20	State	To measure the educational achievement & progress of the nation's students (The Nation's Report Card)	4, 8, & 12	Required for selected school sample	Seat Time: 90 minutes Max Total Time: 90 minutes	School coordinator will work with NAEP personnel to pull out students for assessment. Students continue instruction as normal after testing is complete.	Reading - English Only Language and content assigned by NAEP. 12th grade - All contents English Only	Online
FEBRUARY 2026 Grading Cycle 4: 1.06-2.20 Grading Cycle 5: 2.23-4.17										
STAAR Stand-Alone Field Test *Selected Schools Sample	2.03 - Eng I 2.04 - 3-8 RLA 2.05 - Eng 2	2.03-2.06	State	TEA mandates STAAR Field Testing to develop a bank of reliable test questions for STAAR.	3-8 RLA English I English II	Required	2 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Use EOY LPAC Language determination from 2024-2025	Online
Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2) #4 Students may only be tested in the official window.	2.04	2.05-2.06	State	To determine whether students are ready for entry-level college coursework in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.	12	Grade 9-11: Dual Credit bound students not yet meeting TSI threshold Grade 12: TCB student certificate earned but have not met college ready score on TSIA2.0; Students not college ready and not in TCB	Seat Time: 1-5 hours Max Total Time: 5 hours	Pull subset of students to test the first 1.5 hours of the day. Students continue instruction as normal after testing is complete.	Test available in English only.	Online
Credit-By-Exam (CBE) #3 (not to be used for mid-year acceleration)	2.09-2.17 Staff PD 2.13 President's Day 2.16	2.10-2.17	State	To determine if students qualify for grade advancement and used for course credit	K-12	Required for students with a parent testing request	Seat Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test Max Total Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test	Does not impact instructional day; individual students are pulled out as needed.	Test available in English only for all content tests. Foreign language CBEs are available in their respective language.	Online
Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)	2.17-2.27	2.18-2.27	State	To measure developed abilities for the military and helps predict future academic and occupational success	9-12	Optional	Seat Time: 90 minutes (self-paced online test); 3 hours (paper test) Max Total Time: 2.5 hours (self-paced online test); 3 hours (paper test)	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Test available in English only.	Paper/Online
Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System - Alternate (TELPAS ALT)	2.17-3.06	Campus required to test absent student upon return	State	To determine English Language proficiency for Special Education students with severe cognitive disabilities; State & Federal accountability	2-12 EB students	Required for EBs with the most significant cognitive disabilities who cannot participate in the general ELP assessment, even with allowable accommodations.	Seat Time: 4-5 hours (varies - depends on student and based on observation) Max Total Time: 7 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	N/A - all qualifying EB students test	Online
Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS)	2.17-3.06 Week 1 = 2.17-2.20 Week 2 = 2.23-2.27 Week 3 = 3.02-3.06 Spring Break = 3.09-3.13 Wrap-Up Week = 3.16-3.20 Reports sent to EDs = 3.23-3.24 TELPAS Verification Day = 3.25	Campus required to test absent student upon return	State	To determine English Language proficiency for Emergent Bilingual (EB) students; State & Federal accountability	K-12 EB students	All EBs including students with parental denials (coded WH), classified as emergent bilingual EB/EL in (PEIMS) including those who have parents who have declined bilingual/ESL program services	Seat Time: 4-5 hrs /subject test Max Total Time: 7 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	N/A - all EB students test	Online

*Subject to change per HISD Cabinet updates

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode
Industry Based Certifications (IBCs) Exam Based	2.23-3.27	4.6-4.15	State	All exam-based assessments should be completed by 5/15/2026	9-12	Students enrolled in CTE programs of study are expected to take IBC certification exams.	Seat Time: 2-5 hours (varies by certification exam)	Varies by certification exam. Ex: Some certs need a trained proctor other than a teacher. Some certs require an off-site testing site.	N/A	Online
Health Science IBC Exam Based	2.23-4.3	3.25-5.4	State	The Health Science IBC has a 30-day waiting period for a re-test.	12					
Automotive IBC Entry Level Exam Based	2.23-4.3	3.25-5.4	State	The Automotive Entry-Level IBC has a 30-day waiting period for a re-test.	11-12					
AP Seminar Individual Written Argument (IWA) and Presentation -Draft	2.27	3.02-3.06	State	Requirement for the student's AP score.	9-12	Required	N/A	N/A	N/A	Online
MARCH 2026 Grading Cycle 5: 2.23-4.17										
STAAR Alternate 2 (STAAR ALT 2)	3.16-4.17 <i>Chavez Huerta Day 3.30</i> <i>Spring Holiday 4.03</i>	3.17-4.17	State	To measure end-of-year learning; state and federal accountability; designed to assess special education students with severe cognitive disorders	3-8 EOC	Required	Seat Time: Varies/multiple days	STAAR Alternate 2 has a minimal affect on Instructional time.	Tested language based on LPAC for 3rd - 5th.	Paper (Results entered online)
ACT	3.25	3.26-3.27	State	To measure skills that are most important for success in postsecondary education and that are acquired in secondary education used for Accelerated testers to demonstrate Science skills in High School for accountability.	11	Students who are accelerated testers in Biology (passed Biology EOC before 9th grade). Grade 11 accelerated testers will also have the opportunity to use this assessment for college admissions, TSIA, in addition to the required Accelerated Biology Testing requirement.	Seat Time: 3.5 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Language accommodations available to EBs.	Online
Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2) #5 <i>Students may only be tested in the official window.</i>	3.25	3.26-3.27	State	To determine whether students are ready for entry-level college coursework in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.	9-12	<i>Grade 9-11: Dual Credit bound students not yet meeting TSI threshold</i> <i>Grade 12: TCB student certificate earned but have not met college ready score on TSIA2.0; Students not college ready and not in TCB</i>	Seat Time: 1-5 hours Max Total Time: 5 hours	Pull subset of students to test the first 1.5 hours of the day. Students continue instruction as normal after testing is complete.	Test available in English only.	Online
APRIL 2026 Grading Cycle 5: 2.23-4.17 Grading Cycle 6: 4.20-6.04										
Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) School Day (including Makeups)	4.01 <i>Spring Holiday 4.03</i>	4.02-4.03	State	To determine college admission and scholarships and used for Accelerated testers to demonstrate Math, Reading skills in High School for accountability.	11	Required for all 11th graders	Seat Time: 3 hours (online 2 hours and 14 min)	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Schools can request testing supports for English learners through College Board.	Online
Spring Student Survey	4.01	4.02-4.16	District	To gather student perception on classroom experience for teachers.	3-12	Required for students of DTR applicants and students of teachers who have opted-in	Seat Time: 1 hour	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	The student survey will be offered in the languages listed here (Arabic, Bengali, Cebuano, Chuukese, English, Spanish, French, Hawaiian, Haitian Creole, Ilokano, Japanese, Korean, Marshallese, Pashto, Portuguese, Russian, Samoan, Swahili, Tagalog, Tongan, Urdu, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese). Students will be able to select their preferred language before beginning the survey to ensure they can fully understand and engage with the questions.	Online
<i>Postsecondary Mindsets & Durable Skills Survey</i>	4.01	4.02-4.16	District	To gather student mindsets on postsecondary topics and their self-assessment of key durable skills	6-12	Required	Seat Time: 1 hour	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	The student survey will be offered in the languages listed here (Arabic, Bengali, Cebuano, Chuukese, English, Spanish, French, Hawaiian, Haitian Creole, Ilokano, Japanese, Korean, Marshallese, Pashto, Portuguese, Russian, Samoan, Swahili, Tagalog, Tongan, Urdu, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese). Students will be able to select their preferred language before beginning the survey to ensure they can fully understand and engage with the questions.	Online

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode
STAAR EOC Eng. I	4.09	4.10-4.17	State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability; HS graduation requirement	Eng. I	Required	Seat Time: 3.5 hrs /subject test Max Total Time: 7 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Tests available in English only; Language accommodations available to EBs.	Online
STAAR RLA			State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability	6-8				Tested language based on LPAC for 3rd - 5th; Test available in English and Spanish; Language accommodations available to EBs	Online
STAAR EOC Eng. II	4.14	4.15-4.17	State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability; HS graduation requirement	Eng. II				Test available in English only; Language accommodations available to EBs.	Online
STAAR RLA			State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability	3-5				Tested language based on LPAC for 3rd - 5th.	Online
STAAR 8 SCIENCE & MS BIOLOGY	4.15	4.16-4.24	State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability; HS graduation requirement	8 Science MS students Enrolled in Biology				Test available in English only; Language accommodations available to EBs.	Online
STAAR EOC US HISTORY			State		Enrolled in US History					
Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2) #6 Students may only be tested in the official window.	4.15	4.16-4.17	State	To determine whether students are ready for entry-level college coursework in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.	9-12	Grade 9-11: Dual Credit bound students not yet meeting TSI threshold Grade 12: Students without a CCMR point and those who have not met College Readiness on TSIA 2.0	Seat Time: 1-5 hours Max Total Time: 5 hours	Pull subset of students to test the first 1.5 hours of the day. Students continue instruction as normal after testing is complete.	Test available in English only.	Online
(EOY) DIBELS/Lectura *Dyslexia Screener/Early Childhood Data Collection per TEA (Kindergarten Only)	4.20-5.11	4.21-5.11	State	To collect early childhood data, monitor progress, group students for interventions and support To identify students needing reading interventions for word reading accuracy & fluency	K-1 PUA K-2 NES	Required	Seat Time: 5-8 minutes per student Max Total Time: Approx. 60 mins daily	Testing is individual student pull-out. Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences. RAN is administered to Kindergarten EOY - TEA Requirement.	Required to test in English and Spanish for all K & 1 students participating in a Transitional or Dual Language program. 2nd test in English only.	Online
STAAR 5 SCIENCE	4.21	4.22-4.24	State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability	5	Required	Seat Time: 3.5 hrs /subject test Max Total Time: 7 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Tested language based on LPAC for 3rd - 5th; Test available in English and Spanish; Language accommodations available to EBs.	Online
STAAR 8 SOCIAL STUDIES	4.22	4.23-4.24		To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability	8				Test available in English only.	
STAAR EOC BIOLOGY				To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability; HS graduation requirement	HS students Enrolled in Biology				Test available in English only.	
(EOY) CIRCLE Pre-K Early Childhood Data Collection per TEA	4.22-5.22	4.23-5.22	State	To collect Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 data, monitor progress, group students for interventions and support	Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4	Required	Seat Time: 5-10 minutes per student Max Total Time: Approx. 60 mins daily	Testing is administered individually. Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences.	Use student home language (English or Spanish) along with EB indicator code in PowerSchool. The Head Start teacher/classroom with follow the same guidance as the HISD teacher/classroom.	Online
STAAR 3-5 Math	4.23	4.24-5.01	State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability	3-5	Required	Seat Time: 3.5 hrs /subject test Max Total Time: 7 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Tested language based on LPAC for 3rd - 5th; Test available in English and Spanish; Language accommodations available to EBs.	Online

***Subject to change per HISD Cabinet updates**

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode			
AP Digital Submissions (Seminar, Research, Computer Science Principles)	4.23	4.24-4.30	State	Requirement for the student's AP score.	9-12	Required	N/A	N/A	N/A	Online			
International Baccalaureate (IB) Exams	4.24-5.20	There are no make-up exams	State	Qualifying scores allow students to earn college credit and a CCMR point.	11-12	Students enrolled in IB courses are expected to take IB exams.	Seat Time: 3-5 hours per subject test Max Total Time: 3-5 hours per subject test	Part 1 starts in the afternoon Part 2 continues the next morning	A bilingual dictionary is permitted for certain courses for eligible students that meet IBO's guidelines	Paper			
STAAR 6-8 Math & MS ALGEBRA I	4.28	4.29-5.01	State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability; HS graduation requirement	6-8 Math MS students Enrolled in Algebra 1	Required	Seat Time: 3.5 hrs /subject test Max Total Time: 7 hours	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	Test available in English only; Language accommodations available to EBs.	Online			
STAAR EOC Alg. I					Algebra I								
MAY 2026 Grading Cycle 6: 4.20-6.04 Last Day for Students 06.04 Last Day for Teachers 06.05													
AP Digital Submissions (Art)	5.01	5.04-5.08	State	Requirement for the student's AP score.	9-12	Required	N/A	N/A	N/A	Online			
AP Teacher Grading Submission (AP Seminar, AP Research)													
AP Exams	5.04-5.15	5.18-5.22	State	To demonstrate mastery of rigorous college-level material; state and federal accountability	8-12	Students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take AP exams. Students are eligible to opt into Exam Only.	Seat Time: 3.5 hours Max Total Time: Up to 6 hours for students who are authorized for extended time	Begin first thing in the morning, and then instruction continues as normal with an adjusted schedule.	N/A	Online/Hybrid/Paper			
EB Reclassification Testing	5.04-5.29 <i>Memorial Day 5.25</i>	5.05-5.29	State	To determine whether students meet exit criteria from the Bilingual or English as a second language (ESL) program Used for LPAC EOY committee to reclassify Emergent Bilinguals; The window is an extended due to state testing at the EOY.	1-2 11-12	Required for reclassification "exiting" from EB classification	Seat Time: 3 hours Max Total Time: Varies depending on grade level, maximum of 4 hours	Does not impact instructional day; individual students are pulled out as needed.	Test available in English only.	Online			
Semester 2 HS Course Final Exams <i>Gr 12</i>	5.14-5.20	5.21-5.22	State	To assess students' learning at the end of the semester	12	Required for HS students	Seat Time: 1-2 hrs per exam Max Total Time: 1-2 hrs per exam	Test during campus-created semester exam schedule. Test the on the first available date of the window based on campus schedule. Schedule should include time for make-ups.	Test available in English only	Online			
Semester 2 CTE FPOS & AI DSAs	5.14-6.04 <i>Memorial Day 5.26</i>	Campuses must embed time for make ups in their schedule. All tests must be completed by the last day of the window.	District		Foundations of AI Foundational Programs of Study (FPOS) CTE Courses	Required	Seat Time: Typically 60-75 minutes Max Total Time: 90 minutes						
Semester 2 HS Course DSAs	5.14-6.04 <i>Memorial Day 5.26</i>	Campuses must embed time for make ups in their schedule. All tests must be completed by the last day of the window.	District		Art of Thinking (AoT) World Geography (Regular & PreAP) World History (Regular & PreAP) English III Algebra II IPC Physics								
(EOY) NWEA MAP Growth	5.19 Math 5.20 RLA 5.21 Science	5.22, 5.26, and 5.27	District - Math State - Reading District - Science	To monitor progress, group students for interventions & support	K-8 Math including students enrolled in Algebra I 2-8 RLA 2-8 Science	Required	Seat Time: K-2: 25 minutes 2-5: 40 minutes 6+: 55 minutes and course specific Max Total Time: K-2: 40 minutes 2-5: 65 minutes 6+: 90 minutes and course specific	School shut down instruction first two hours of day; adjust remainder of day to continue instruction. Ensure no one class is skipped more than once.	Grades 2nd-5th RLA: Transitional or Dual Language Program - English and Spanish *Spanish assessment is completed on Tuesday of make-up week. Grades 6th-8th RLA: Dual Language campuses - English and Spanish *Spanish assessment is completed on Tuesday of make-up week. Math: Language identified by district per student Science: English only	Online			

*Subject to change per HISD Cabinet updates

Assessment	Test Date	Window for Make-ups	Mandate	Purpose/Justification	Grade	Required/Optional	Avg. Time	Assessment Guidance	Bilingual Guidance	Mode
(EOY) NWEA MAP Growth (High School)	5.19-5.22 Biology 5.19-5.22 Geometry	5.20-5.27	District - Math and Science			Required	Seat Time: 55 minutes Max Total Time: 90 minutes	Complete assessment during scheduled class - Biology or Geometry. Testing window supports block scheduling. Campuses adjust testing schedule based on absences.	Geometry: English only Biology: English only	
Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2) #7 Students may only be tested in the official window.	5.20	5.21-5.22	State	To determine whether students are ready for entry-level college coursework in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.	9-12	Grade 9-11: Dual Credit bound students not yet meeting TSI threshold Grade 11: Students in English III that did not meet the college ready score on the SAT Grade 12: Students without a CCMR point and those who have not met College Readiness on TSIA 2.0 All students enrolled in Algebra II that do not have a SAT, ACT or TSIA 2.0 math score that meets the College Ready benchmark.	Seat Time: 1-5 hours Max Total Time: 5 hours	Pull subset of students to test the first 1.5 hours of the day. Students continue instruction as normal after testing is complete.	Test available in English only.	Online
AP Teacher Grading Submission (AP African American Studies)	5.22	5.26-5.29	State	Requirement for the student's AP score.	9-12	Required	N/A	N/A	N/A	Online
Semester 2 6-8 Social Studies DSA	5.26-5.27	5.28-5.29	District	To assess students' learning at the end of the semester	6-8	Required	Seat Time: Typically 60-75 minutes	Test during instructional block. Test the first available date of the window based on campus schedule.	Test available in English only.	Online
Semester 2 3-8 AoT DSA	5.26-5.27	5.28-5.29	District		3-8 (Campuses with AoT)		Max Total Time: 90 minutes			
Semester 2 HS Course Final Exams Gr 9-11	5.29-6.04	6.08-6.22	State	To assess students' learning at the end of the semester	9-11	Required for HS students	Seat Time: 1-2 hrs per exam Max Total Time: 1-2 hrs per exam	Test during campus-created final exam schedule. Test the on the first available date of the window based on campus schedule. Schedule should include time for make-ups.	Test available in English only.	Online
JUNE 2026 Grading Cycle 6: 4.20-6.04										
Dual Language LOTE Credit Testing (only for Dual Language Immersion Program students who meet the qualification)	6.05	6.08	State	To determine if students can obtain one World Language credit for Level 1 for the upcoming year acceleration as stated in 19 TAC §74.12(5)(F).	5	Required for Dual Language Immersion Program students who meet the qualification as stated in 19 TAC §74.12(5)(F).	Seat Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test Max Total Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test	Does not impact instructional day; individual students are pulled out as needed.	Test available in English and partner language for LOTE credit (Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, and French). 5th grade Dual Language Immersion Program Only	Online
Credit-By-Exam (CBE) #4 (can be used for the upcoming year acceleration)	6.15-6.22 <i>Juneteenth Holiday 6.19</i>	6.16-6.22	State	To determine if students qualify for advance grade levels and can be used for course credit	K-12	Required for students with a parent testing request	Seat Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test Max Total Time: Various; average 3 hrs/test	Does not impact instructional day; individual students are pulled out as needed.	Test available in English only for all content tests. Foreign language CBEs are available in their respective language.	Online
STAAR End-of-Course (EOC)	6.16 English I 6.17 US History 6.18 English II <i>Juneteenth Holiday 6.19</i> 6.22 Algebra I 6.23 Biology	6.17-6.26	State	To measure end-of-year course learning; state and federal accountability; HS graduation requirement	Students enrolled in EOC courses	Required	Seat Time: 3.5 hrs /subject test Max Total Time: 7 hours	Eligible students report to zoned campus for testing days. Testing begins in the morning.	Test available in English only; Language accommodations available to EBs.	Online
Summer School Pre-Test 3-12	6.11-6.12	6.15-6.16	State	To monitor student progress and assess students' learning at the end of summer school	3-12	Required	Test during instructional block. Test the first available date of the window based on campus schedule.	Test during instructional block. Test the first available date of the window based on campus schedule.	Test available in English or Spanish based on course enrollment.	Paper/ Online
JULY 2026										
Summer School Post-Test PK	7.14-7.15	7.16-7.17	State	To assess students' learning at the end of summer school	Pre-K	Required	Seat Time: 15 minutes	Test during instructional block. Test the first available date of the window based on campus schedule.	Test available in English or Spanish based on course enrollment.	Paper/ Online
Summer School Post-Test 1-12					1-12		Seat Time: Typically 40-50 minutes Max Total Time: 60 minutes			

*Subject to change per HISD Cabinet updates