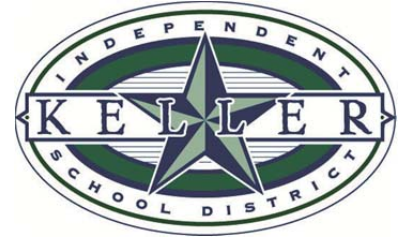


STATE OF TEXAS ASSESSMENTS OF
ACADEMIC READINESS (STAAR™)
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (Q&A'S)



- 1. Beginning in the spring of 2012, freshmen students will be required to take the STAAR EOC assessments. How are the STAAR EOC assessments related to course grades?**
 - ✓ The score a student receives on a STAAR EOC assessment is required to count for 15% of each semester grade in the course. The STAAR English I assessment will include separate reading and writing exams. In Keller ISD each of the reading and writing exams will count as 7.5% of the semester grade for a total of 15% for each semester grade.

- 2. What are the levels of performance on the STAAR EOC assessments and how will each level translate into a grade?**
 - ✓ There are three Levels of Performance
 - Level I – Unsatisfactory Academic Performance
 - Level II- Satisfactory Academic Performance
 - Level III- Advanced Academic Performance
 - ✓ In Keller ISD, students will receive a grade of 68 for Level I performance, a 90 for Level II performance, and 100 for Level III performance.

- 3. Who can retake a STAAR EOC in Keller ISD?**
 - ✓ Level I Performance is considered unsatisfactory. All students who perform at a Level I must retake the exam during the next state testing administration window.
 - ✓ Additionally, for English III and Algebra II, students who perform at the Level II or Satisfactory Performance Level may retake the exam one time if seeking the Distinguished Academic Plan for graduation; however, course grades will not change based on a retake.

- 4. Does the 15% grading requirement apply to students' grade-point average (GPA) and/or class rank?**
 - ✓ As outlined in statute, the score a student receives on a STAAR EOC is required to count for 15% of the student's final grade in the course. In Keller ISD, GPA and class rank are based on final semester grades; therefore, the 15% does apply to the student's GPA and class rank.

- 5. If a student does not receive a score on a STAAR EOC assessment, how is the final course grade calculated based on the 15% requirement?**
 - ✓ Occasionally a student will not receive a score on an assessment due to absences, testing irregularities, or failure to complete due to illness. If a student does not receive a score on a STAAR EOC assessment, then the district will factor a zero into the calculation of the final semester course grade. The student will take the exam during the next testing opportunity and the semester grade will be recalculated. It is anticipated that the two-week testing window for STAAR EOC assessments will accommodate most student absences.

6. Does the 15% grading requirement apply to students who receive credit through correspondence courses and dual credit courses?

- ✓ Yes, the score a student receives on a STAAR EOC assessment is required to count for 15% of the student's semester grade in the course even if a student earns credit through a correspondence course or a dual credit course.

7. Does the 15% grading requirement apply to students who receive course credit through credit by examination?

- ✓ No, for credit by examination, the Texas Education Code requires a school district to award a student credit on the basis of a successful score on an examination and to enter the examination score on the student's transcript.