

2011-2012 Program Exit Criteria Questions and Answers (This document is only for the 2011-2012 school year.)

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Q: For the school year 2011–2012, can a school district use other assessment instruments besides TELPAS reading to determine the fluent English reading proficiency rating for bilingual education or ESL program exit of students who take STAAR 3-8 reading or English I reading tests?

A: No. For school year 2011–2012 a TELPAS rating of advanced high in reading is the only measure used to meet reading criteria for these students.

Q: For the school year 2011–2012, should a school district use the composite rating of advanced high or only the Reading rating of advanced high on TELPAS for these students?

A: Only the TELPAS reading rating of advanced high must be used in the composite rating.

Q: Should a school district continue to use a TELPAS rating of advanced high in writing to meet the English writing proficiency exit criteria?

A: Yes. As with previous years, a rating of advanced high on the writing portion of TELPAS may be used to determine English writing proficiency for bilingual education and ESL program exit.

Q: Is it acceptable for school districts to use other tests from the TEA *List of Approved Tests for the Assessment of LEP Students* to determine English writing proficiency or are we supposed to use only the TELPAS?

A: As in previous years, districts have the option to choose a test from the TEA *List of Approved Tests for the Assessment of LEP Students*; TELPAS is one of the options on the List. The option must be documented in advance as part of the District Exit Criteria Guidelines.

Q: How will bilingual education/ESL program exit tests differ for ELLs who are first entering grade 9 in school year 2011-2012 versus repeating grade 9?

A: STAAR English I reading and writing test results must be used for students' first entering grade 9. For repeating ninth graders, districts will use the advanced high TELPAS reading rating and an agency approved writing test from the 2011-2012 list of approved tests.