

SB 1031 - Assessments & End-of-Course Exams

Phase-out the TAKS test for grades 9-11 and phase in the following end-of-course assessments starting with 9th grade students in the 2009-2010 school year.

English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
English I	Algebra I	Biology	World Geography
English II	Geometry	Chemistry	World History
English III	Algebra II	Physics	US History

- ? Students will be required to earn a cumulative score of 840, equal to earning a grade of 70 on each exam in order to graduate. Students scoring below 70 will receive accelerated instruction and have the opportunity to be re-tested.
- ? The score a student achieves on the end-of-course exam shall be worth 15% of the student's overall grade for that course.
- ? All assessments (grades 3-12) shall be developed in a manner that allows a measure of student progress to be calculated.
- ? Assessments will include an optional series of questions to measure college readiness in a manner similar to the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) to measure the need for developmental coursework in higher education and therefore eliminate the need for additional assessments.
- ? All students will complete a college readiness diagnostic assessment in the 8th and 10th grade and students may choose to take a college entrance exam in the 11th grade, all at state expense.
- ? Assessments in grades 3-8 will also be revised so that a 5th grade social studies test is added, the 5th grade science test is moved to 4th grade, and the separate writing assessments in grades 4 and 7 are integrated into the reading assessments in grades 4-8.
- ? Safeguards and criminal penalties are also added to maintain the security and integrity of our assessment system.