



Guidance for Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) Districts Seeking to Participate in 2024-25 Texas Through Year Assessment Pilot (TTAP)

CONTEXT

Districts interested in participating in both the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) and the Texas Through Year Assessment Pilot (TTAP) in 2024-25 will need to ensure that their approved local designation system's identified student growth measures do not conflict with TTAP assessment requirements. Any changes required for modifying a TIA local designation system to participate in TTAP should be submitted through a TIA Expansion and Modification Application which is due April 15, 2024.

To preserve classroom instructional time, TTAP requires that participating students use the TTAP testing opportunities as the sole interim tool for selected courses and grade levels during the pilot. An interim assessment is a progress monitoring assessment administered a few times during the year that takes a snapshot of current student performance to observe mastery of grade-level expectations at a specific moment in time.

Note that this requirement does not pertain to diagnostics or pre-tests administered in the first weeks of the school year.

Districts participating in both TIA and TTAP who are using a third-party assessment for the select courses below may be required to make changes to their TIA Local Designation System.

2024-25 TIA AND TTAP ELIGIBLE TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

The eligible teaching assignments for both TIA and TTAP in 2024-25 are as follows:

- Grade 3 Math (New)
- Grade 6 Math
- Grade 7 Math
- Grade 8 Math (New)
- Grade 8 Social Studies
- Algebra 1 (New)

Note: Due to new TTAP assessments for grade 3 Math, grade 8 Math, and Algebra I, districts that previously reconciled their third-party assessments for TIA with TTAP requirements will need to review these eligible teaching assignments to determine whether a 2023-24 TIA Expansions and Modifications application is required for implementation in during the 2024-25 school year.

Districts including these eligible teaching assignments who participate in both TIA and TTAP can consider the following growth measure options:

1. Use a student growth measure other than an interim assessment such as portfolios or SLOs, and then plan to use the TTAP as the interim assessment system.

2. Use a pre-test/post-test system where:
 - a. the pre-test is a diagnostic used for the purpose of setting expected growth targets and not for purposes of preparing for STAAR; and
 - b. the post-test is not an EOY benchmark test, but rather a district-created summative test or the STAAR test administered in the spring.

Examples of acceptable pre-tests that could be used for measuring student growth in a TIA local designation system while also participating in TTAP are:

- District-created pre-tests aligned to the standards of the course, using test items from vetted test banks such as Texas Resource System, DMAC, Eduphoria, etc.
- Prior year EOY STAAR or Released STAAR
- Third-party vendor BOY tests used for diagnostic purposes only, and not as interim assessments, for purposes of preparing for STAAR.

Example District Scenarios

The following example scenarios are for illustrative purposes only and do not include all possible local district contexts. Approved or prospective TIA districts with questions about eligibility for the 2024-25 school year should reach out to TIA@tea.texas.gov with questions about application requirements.

DISTRICT SCENARIO	ALLOWABLE OR NOT ALLOWABLE	Next Steps
Scenario A: District A is an approved TIA district that wants to participate in TTAP. They currently use a third-party vendor test three times per year (BOY, MOY and EOY) to inform instruction and to direct support for students to be successful on the STAAR assessment. They plan to make no changes to the local designation system and to continue using this third-party assessment system while also layering in all three waves of the TTAP assessments in the same year.	Not Allowable – TIA Modification Required Rationale: To avoid unnecessary interruptions to instruction, districts are prohibited from administering more than two interim opportunities during a school year. Districts can participate in TTAP if it is the only interim assessment system used for the applicable grade levels and content areas.	District A should review the options to determine how to modify the local designation system through the submission of an Expansion and Modification Application by April 15, 2024, to support the implementation of both systems starting in 2024-25. If the district does not submit this modification application, they will not be able to participate in TTAP based on the requirements. To reconcile this issue for participation in TTAP they would be required to change their student growth measure(s) for the impacted Eligible Teacher categories or remove the eligible teacher categories from the district's approved TIA Local Designation system through an Expansion-Modifications application.

Scenario B: District B is an approved TIA district that wants to participate in TTAP. They currently use a third-party vendor test three times a year (BOY, MOY and EOY) to inform instruction and to direct support for students to be successful on the STAAR. They plan to continue using this third-party BOY test as a diagnostic pre-test to set expected growth goals for purposes of TIA and will also use the spring STAAR to determine if students met expected growth targets or not. The district will replace the MOY and EOY third-party tests with the three waves of TTAP.	Allowable – TIA Modification Required Rationale: The only interims assessments in District B are the TTAP tests. The third-party BOY test serves as a diagnostic pre-test only to set expected growth targets, and the district eliminated the third-party MOY and EOY tests and are now using Spring STAAR as the Post-test. Diagnostic third-party pre-tests are allowable when used to set expected growth to measure performance on EOY STAAR.	District B is making changes to the student growth component of the approved TIA local designation system and will need to submit an Expansion and Modification application by April 15, 2024.
Scenario C: District C is an approved TIA district that currently uses district-created interims at BOY, MOY and EOY to help prepare students for STAAR. They also use the BOY assessment to set expected growth targets for purposes of TIA and the EOY assessment to determine whether students met expected growth or not. They are interested in participating in TTAP and plan to replace their MOY and EOY district assessments with the TTAP assessments for Waves 1-3. For TIA, they plan to continue using the district BOY assessment to set expected growth targets and will use spring STAAR to determine whether students met expected growth or not.	Allowable – TIA Modification Required Rationale: By replacing the district-created MOY and EOY assessments with the TTAP tests, and by using their district-created BOY test as a diagnostic pre-test only, District C has ensured that there is only one set of interims tests (TTAP) for the six titles of TTAP. District-created BOY assessments are allowable when used to set expected growth not used as an interim assessment tool.	District C is making changes to the student growth component of the approved TIA local designation system and will need to submit an Expansion and Modification application by April 15, 2024.

Scenario D: District D is an approved TIA and TTAP district that reconciled TTAP interim testing requirements for teacher categories grade five Science, grade eight Social Studies, and grades 6-7 math on their previously accepted TIA Application. They currently use a third-party vendor test three times per year (BOY, MOY and EOY) to inform instruction and to direct support for students to be successful on the STAAR assessment in grade 3 math and Algebra I. The district wants to add the new grade 3 math and Algebra I to their TTAP assessment system. They plan to make no changes to the local designation system and to continue using this third-party interims system while also layering in all three waves of the TTAP assessments in the same year.	Not Allowable – TIA Modification Required Rationale: To avoid unnecessary interruptions to instruction, districts are prohibited from administering more than two interims opportunities during a school year. Districts can participate in TTAP if it is the only interims system used for the applicable grade levels and content areas.	District D should review the options to determine how to modify the local designation system through the submission of an Expansion and Modification Application by April 15, 2024, to support the implementation of both systems starting in 2024-25. If the district does not submit this modification application, they will not be able to participate in TTAP based on the requirements. To reconcile this issue for participation in TTAP they would be required to change their student growth measure(s) for the impacted Eligible Teacher categories, remove the applicable courses grade 3 Math and Algebra I from consideration for TTAP, or remove the eligible teacher categories from the district’s approved TIA Local Designation system through an Expansions and Modifications application.
Scenario E: District E is an approved TIA district. They are interested in participating in TTAP, but they have gotten great results using their current third-party vendor BOY, MOY, and EOY assessments, as described in the approved TIA system application. Because the district does not want to change its current assessment structure, they have decided not to participate in TTAP.	Allowable – No TIA Modifications Required Rationale: Because District E knows that they cannot do both a third-party interims system and TTAP in 2024-25, they have decided not to participate in TTAP, so they still have only one interims system. No modifications to the approved TIA system are required in 2023-24.	N/A
Scenario F: District F is an approved TIA district. They are interested in participating in	Allowable – TIA Modification Required	District F is making changes to the student growth component of the approved TIA local

TTAP, but they currently use third-party vendor BOY, MOY, and EOY assessments as described in the approved TIA system application. Because they also want to participate in TTAP in the upcoming school year, they have decided not to use the third-party vendor assessments anymore and to modify the TIA local designation system.	Rationale: Because District F knows that they cannot do both a third-party party interims system and TTAP, they have decided not to use the third-party party vendor assessment anymore, so they still have only one interims system.	designation system and will need to submit an Expansion and Modification application by April 15, 2024.
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