

TAKS Test

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receive the instruction and support they need to be academically successful, the state allows three opportunities for students in grades 3, 5 and 8 to pass the TAKS tests.

Students who are not successful after the first administration of the test will receive accelerated instruction to help them achieve mastery in the second administration.

An instructional learning model adopted by CFISD is characterized by the following modifications to help students:

- an intense focus on teaching students the TEKS they have not yet mastered as identified by the test results;
- practice of research-based teaching strategies;
- a lowered student-to-teacher ratio; and
- extended daily learning and practice time (or several times a week).

With additional time to prepare for the TAKS test, the 2006-2007 TAKS data proved that students could successfully meet the SSI challenge. All subgroups in grades 3 and 5 after the third administration of the TAKS were in the exemplary range, showing that students are more likely to be successful in passing the TAKS test when given more instructional time and specific strategies to address objectives not yet mastered. The gains from the first administration to the third administration demonstrated the effectiveness of the district's instructional programs and the strength of CFISD's curriculum to provide all students with a quality education.

The second administration of the TAKS reading test for grades 3, 5 and 8 will be given on April 30 and the third administration will be given on July 2.



Students learn academic skills and are supported by their teachers as they prepare to take the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test.

CFISD students are now preparing to take the TAKS math test. Students in grades 5 and 8 will take the TAKS math test on April 8 and grades 3-4, 6-7 and 10 will take the test on April 29.

TAKS Testing Dates

March 24- April 11 TELPAS (LEP)

April 8 TAKS Math
Grades 5, 8

April 29 TAKS Math
Grades 3-4, 6-7,
and 10

April 30 TAKS Reading
Grades 4, 6, 7

TAKS Reading
Retest
Grades 3, 5, 8

TAKS Math
Grade 11 (Exit)

May 1 TAKS Science
Grades 5, 8, 10,
and 11 (Exit)

TAKS Math
Grade 9

May 2 TAKS
Social Studies
Grades 8, 10,
and 11 (Exit)

May 13 TAKS Math Retest
Grades 5, 8

July 1 TAKS Math Retest
Grades 5, 8

July 2 TAKS Reading
Retest
Grades 3, 5, 8

TAKS Q&A

Q: Do all students take the TAKS test?

A: All students in grades three through 11 are required by law to take the TAKS test with the exception of students who take an alternative exam.

Special Education: As determined by the Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) committee, and based on a student's educational program, the following alternative tests may be administered to those who qualify for special education services:

- the State Developed Alternative Assessment (SDAA II) exam;
- the TAKS-I; or
- the Locally Determined Alternative Assessment (LDAA).

Limited English Proficient (LEP): Understandably, recent immigrants to Texas may not possess sufficient English skills to take the TAKS test. Therefore, reading skills may be evaluated on the reading proficiency test in English, and math skills may be evaluated on the Linguistically Accommodated TAKS Math test.

Q: Does TAKS impact graduation?

A: Yes. Each student, by law, must pass the exit-level TAKS test—in addition to earning the credits for required coursework—in order to receive a high school diploma. TAKS exams are given to 11th-grade students in the following four subject areas: English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. If a student fails any subject-area test, multiple retest opportunities are available.

Q: What do students need to know to be prepared for the TAKS test?

A: The state-mandated curriculum, which is called the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), defines what students should know and the skills they must acquire. In Texas, a teacher's daily lessons, units, projects and regular tests are based on the TEKS. The TAKS assessment is aligned with the TEKS curriculum, which allows TAKS to serve as a measurement determining how well students have learned the TEKS (the curriculum that is taught) in the core subject-areas during the course of the year.

Q: Is more information available about TAKS or TEKS?

A: For more information about the state-testing and accountability program, visit the Texas Education Agency website at www.tea.state.tx.us. In addition, CFISD has published Nailing Down the TAKS, a parent handbook, which is posted on the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District website at www.cfisd.net.

Test Tip For Parents

On test day, parents can help their children by:

- ensuring they get plenty of sleep the night before the test;
- providing a healthy breakfast;
- getting to school on time; and
- communicating their confidence in their child's success.