



Texas Formative Assessment Resource Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS

Authoring – TFAR Platform Educators can create thirteen different templates to create TEKS-based formative assessment items. These are (p)0.5 (l)-1.82 Tw 0.001 3F (e)0.5 ()TJ -0011 Tc 0011 Tw [(i)-12.t (E)-01 3m ()TJ 0.

2. Items Shared with Members Items shared from other educators
3. STAAR Released Items Items used during STAAR administrations. These items have been tested and their TEKS alignment is statistically valid
4. Other Texas Items TEA created items released as the new item and practice tests. These items have never been used during a STAAR administration. TEKS alignment has not been statistically validated

Share – Users can share items and tests created with other users on their campus and with users in a shared workgroup

Workgroup – Users added to workgroups can expand capabilities beyond their campus to everyone in their workgroup

SECTION 2: GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. What is the Texas Formative Assessment Resource (TFAR)?
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- Chapter 118: Economics (ECO)
- Chapter 126: Technology Applications (TA)
- Chapter 127: Career Development (CD)
- Chapter 128: Spanish Language Arts & Reading
 - English Language Arts (ELA)
 - English 1 for Speakers of Other Languages (E1.ESL)
 - English 2 for Speakers of Other Languages (E2.ESL)
 - English Learners Development and Acquisition (ELD)

SECTION 3: TFAR ITEMS

8. What types of items are in TFAR?

TFAR currently contains released questions, and released STAAR questions from TEA new item samplers and online practice tests.

9. Can TFAR item banks be searched by specific TEKS?

Yes, there are different ways to search the bank for a specific TEKS.

1. Select Find Items by Standard on the Dashboard and the Item Filter will open.

a. Auto selected Open Standard pane in top right corner. Select Content and additional use icons to drill down to desired standard. Click on (.) icon to open menu. Note Copy Standard Code used to hand enter TEKS code in Filter or Test Generator Wizard

b. Hand entry: Item Filter, add TEKS in this example format, "MSUBJECT ABBREVIATION GRADE LEVEL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL STUDENT EXPECTATION"

2. When using the Test Generator Wizard, pull all the items from ALL the libraries for the TEKS you specify during setup.

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No. Simple embedded entry items are graded in the Centralized Reporting System (CRS). After logging into CRS and accessing the Authoring Dashboard, select the yellow Tests Score at the top of the screen. A chart will populate with all items to score. In the chart, select each item and use the prompts on the screen to view the student's response and score the item. After scoring the item, click submit. Once an item has been submitted, the item cannot be rescored. Note that the complete data from a test is not reported until all items have been scored.



content. Tailoring the formative assessment to the actual teaching is easily accomplished with TFAR.

22. Why do RLA assessments published prior to October 31, 2022, need to be republished?

RLA items that were not honoring speech and content and language supports on reading passages were removed from the STAAR Released Library on or around October 28, 2022, but they remain teacher authored tests. To ensure that students receive proper accommodations, users wishing to administer these Teacher Authored Tests using items from the STAAR Released Library from tests published prior to October 31, 2022, follow the instructions in [Republishing a Teacher Authored Test](#) document.

23. How long can a TFAR test be paused?

The time length of the pause is 0.5 (f)0.7 (t)0.8 (h)0.1 (n)0.5 (e)0.5



Results can also be downloaded as excel, csv or .txt files that can be imported into local student information systems.

38. Who has access to the student data reports?

Teachers who have been granted access to CRS and have their students rostered have access to student data for only the students. Additionally, district and campus leaders can also access and track TFAR student data.

39. Does the district need to roster teachers in CRS?

For classroom teachers to view data in CRS, including TFAR data, rosters must be up to date in CRS. Once uploaded, campus administrators can create 'custom' rosters (such as by class periods) to enable quicker data analysis.

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