



Preliminary STAAR Biology Blueprint Effective as of School Year 2022–23*

		Number of Standards		Number of Questions	Number of Points
Reporting Categories	Reporting Category 1: Cell Structure and Function	Readiness	3	8–10	8–13
		Supporting	3		
	Reporting Category 2: Mechanisms of Genetics	Readiness	3	8–10	8–13
		Supporting	4		
	Reporting Category 3: Biological Evolution and Classification	Readiness	3	8–10	8–13
		Supporting	6		
	Reporting Category 4: Biological Processes and Systems	Readiness	3	8–10	8–13
		Supporting	3		
	Reporting Category 5: Interdependence within Environmental Systems	Readiness	4	8–10	8–13
		Supporting	3		
Item Types by Point	1-point questions (multiple-choice and non-multiple-choice items)			37	37
	2-point questions (non-multiple-choice items)			8	16
	Total			45	53

All TEKS, whether identified as readiness or supporting, are required to be taught in their entirety for a grade level or course.

Readiness standards are essential for success in the current grade and important for preparedness for the next grade or course. They address broad and deep ideas and require in-depth instruction. These standards make up approximately 60–65% of the total points on the base test.

Supporting standards play a role in preparing students for the next grade or course but not one that is central. They may address more narrowly defined ideas or concepts or may be emphasized in grades below or above the current grade or course. Supporting standards make up approximately 35–40% of the total points on the base test.

Every passage and question on STAAR is created for Texas students with the review and approval of Texas educators.

STAAR passages and questions go through a [rigorous development and review process](#) to ensure they accurately measure student knowledge.

Step 1: Passages and questions are written to align with the TEKS, which describe what students should know and be able to do in each grade and subject.



Step 2: Groups of Texas educators review and approve passages and questions for the grade and subject they teach to ensure passages and questions are grade-level appropriate, align with the TEKS, and are unbiased and accessible to all students.



Step 3: Questions are tested out by Texas students but do not count towards their scores to confirm that the questions are unbiased and accurate. These are called “field-test questions”.



Step 4: Passages and questions that pass all previous steps can be selected for an official STAAR test to provide educators and families with information to support teaching and learning.

[2021–22 STAAR Science Resources](#)

[2021–22 STAAR Resources for all Assessments](#)

[STAAR Redesign Resources](#)