



SY 21-22 Grade 7 Reading Instruments Guidance and Instructions for Submitting a Waiver

August 26, 2021 (updated May 4, 2022)

TEC, §28.006(c-1) requires each school district to administer at the beginning of the seventh grade a reading instrument adopted by the commissioner to each student whose performance on the grade 6 STAAR reading assessment did not demonstrate reading proficiency.

The commissioner has adopted the following:

- Istation's Indicators of Progress, Advanced Reading (ISIP-AR)
- Reading Analysis and Prescription System (RAPS 360)
- Texas Middle School Fluency Assessment (TMFSA)
- Woodcock Johnson III Diagnostic Reading Battery (WJ III DRB)

LEAs are required to use one of these reading diagnostic instruments. Districts may request a waiver in order to use another instrument approved by a local district board of trustees in order to best meet student needs in the 2021-2022 school year only.

Waiver Guidance

Follow the instructions below to complete a grade 7 reading diagnostic instrument waiver request:

1. Please visit TEA's State Waivers webpage to access general information about the waiver process: <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/waivers/state-waivers>
2. Please also review Waiver Process FAQ for information on how to access TEAL for the purposes of submitting a waiver request: <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/Waiver%20Process%20FAQ.pdf>
3. Once in the TEAL waiver application, under the "Create New Waiver" tab, select the waiver type "**Other Waiver**" to create and submit a request for **waiver to use an alternate 7th grade reading instrument**
4. Please complete the LEA contact information, including filling in the date the board approved the waiver request.
5. For the section titled "Waiver Description" please use this language:
"Waiver to use alternate 7th grade reading instrument"
6. For "General Questions #1," please use this language: **"Waiver to use alternate 7th grade reading instrument"**

7. For “General Questions #2,” please enter **N/A**
8. For “General Question #3,” please use this language: “**TEC 28.006(c-1)**”
9. For “General Question #4,” please enter **N/A**
10. For “General Question #5,” please enter **N/A**
11. For “General Question #6,” please enter **N/A**
12. For “Requested Years,” please select only “**2021-2022**”
13. For “LEA Attachments,” please include the board agenda from meeting in which the waiver application request was approved.
14. Please submit your completed waiver. For a *District Editor*, at the end of the waiver application you will find a **Complete & Route** button. This will route the application to your Superintendent for review and approval. For a *District Superintendent*, at the end of the waiver application you will find a **Review and Submit** button. This will take you to a review and submit details page. If the application is complete and ready for submission, select the **Submit to TEA** button.

The alternate grade 7 reading instrument waiver must be submitted by July 4, 2022.