



## Credit by Exam

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Any credit by examination approved for use by the school district must meet all the requirements of TEC §8.023 and TAC §74.24(b)(2), including thoroughly testing the TEKS for the appropriate grade level. CBEs for elementary grade levels may include those described in TAC §74.24(b)(1).

TAC §74.24(b)(1) requires a school district to develop procedures for credit by examination approved by the school district board of trustees.

For grades 1-5, TAC §74.24(b)(2) states that a student must be approved for credit by examination if the student meets the following requirements:

- the student scores 80% on a criterion-referenced test for the appropriate grade level in each of the following areas: language arts and reading, mathematics, and social studies;
- a school district representative recommends that the student be granted credit by examination;
- the student's parent or guardian gives written approval for the credit by examination.



**6. What CBEs are available for courses in Grades 6-12?**

This can vary from district to district.

TAC §74.24(c)(1) requires the school district board of trustees to approve for each high school course, to the extent available, at least four examinations. The school district or the provider of the assessment must certify that the CBE meets all the requirements in TEC §28.023 and TAC §74.24(c)(2)-(4).

These must include College Board advanced placement (AP) exams and College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams. Additional CBEs may include those developed by Texas Tech University, The University of Texas at Austin, the school district, or another entity. A school district must have the approval of the school district board of trustees to develop its own tests or to purchase examinations.

**7. Can the STAAR assessme 3 (n)-0.6 rm**



A school district must provide opportunities for a student who is homeless or in substitute care who transfers to the district after the start of the school year to be administered credit by examination at any point during the school year.

**10. When does my district offer credit by exam?**

Within the windows established by rule, the district may develop its own schedule for administering credit by examination as it fits their resources. The testing window must be designed to meet the needs of all students. The dates must be publicized in the community. If you have questions regarding the



- covers all assessable Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for the course;
- has not been published or made publicly available;
- will only be administered in a secure environment under standardized conditions by a school district or institution of higher education;
- has been evaluated to ensure test scores can be interpreted as indicators of what the test is intended to measure; and
- has been evaluated to ensure consistency of test results across testing conditions.

**14. What additional criteria apply to a CBE for a course that has an end-of-course (EOC) assessment (e.g., Algebra I)?**

In accordance with §TAC 74.24(c)(4), the school district or the provider of the assessment must certify, prior to the first administration, that the examination meets the criteria listed in #14 and has been externally validated and determined to

- align to and appropriately address all assessable TEKS for the course;
- assess the appropriate level of rigor for each student expectation; and
- yield comparable distribution of results across tested subgroups.

**15. What is the audit requirement for credit by examinations?**

Texas Tech University and The University of Texas at Austin shall arrange for a third party to conduct an audit, on a rotating basis annually, of at least 20% of the assessments they provide (TAC §74.24(a)(3)(B)).

In accordance with §TAC 74.24(c)(1), A school district board of trustees must approve an audit process to be completed for CBEs developed by the district or another provider. If the district is using assessments by an outside entity, the district may choose to accept the audit of the provider or conduct its own audit.

**16. What criteria apply to a CBE for a course that has an end-of-course (EOC) assessment (e.g., Algebra I)?**



**17. What additional annual reporting is required for a CBE for a course that has an end-of-course (EOC) assessment (e.g., Algebra I)?**

For a CBE for a course that has an EOC assessment, and in accordance with TAC §74.24(c)(6), a school district or the provider of the CBE must also make public:

all relevant test development specifications;



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