

STAAR Calculator Policy

Calculators are required for STAAR students in grade 8 mathematics, grade 8 science, Algebra 1, Biology, and Chemistry.

the District and Campus Coordinator Resources.

STAAR calculator requirements may also be met with the following calculation devices: a handheld calculator or a calculator application on an allowable device. Students may have access to more than one calculation device for testing. For students testing online or on paper with one or more of these calculation devices, the following information applies.

District- or Student-Supplied Calculation Devices

- The district may provide calculation devices, or students may bring them from home.
- To the extent allowable, students should be provided or allowed to use the calculator.
- For the STAAR grade 8 science and Biology assessments, students must have access to a calculation device with basic four-function capability at a minimum. There should be at least one calculation device for every five students taking these assessments.
- The use of a calculation device during STAAR should not compromise the assessment of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). District personnel should be aware that some calculation devices include programs, applications, or resources that could aid students during testing. Therefore, district and campus personnel should be aware of the following prohibited resources:
 - simultaneous equation solvers; and
 - functions that automatically calculate mean absolute deviation.
- [Technology Guidelines](#) page of the *Coordinator Resources* for more

information regarding the security and validity of the assessments.

- Calculation devices with a computer algebra system (CAS) are not allowed unless the CAS is disabled.
- Calculation applications on smartphones and smartwatches are not allowed.
- Contact the manufacturer of the calculation device for specific assistance in appropriately preparing calculation devices for use during testing.