

## Frequently Asked Questions **State Assessment**

The Curriculum, Assessment, and Accountability Department often receives questions from the

Independent School Districts fully respects and acknowledges requests to have students out of STAR

**their child(ren) from STAAR testing in Texas public schools?**

No state law makes it clear that students may not opt out of tests, including standardized tests. Complete Texas Education Code Sec 26.010 EXEMPTION FROM INSTRUCTIONS:

- (a) A parent is entitled to remove a child from the class or other school activity to avoid a test or to prevent the child from taking a subject for an entire semester.
- (b) This section does not exempt a

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### 3. What are the consequences of missing school during the test administration window?

A student who fails to come to school on the STA/EOC test days could be considered truant under the compulsory attendance laws, and a parent may commit the offense of contributing to attendance, depending on how many days the student has been absent. Similarly, a student who fails to attend class more than 90 percent of the days the class is offered may not receive credit or a final grade for the class, unless certain conditions are met.

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### 4. What are the consequences of not completing state testing?

If a student attends class but refuses to take the STA/EOC test, the test MUST still be scored, as required by the Texas Education Agency. Students who refuse to take the EOC exams in high school may not be able to graduate. These are consequences that a parent should seriously consider before choosing to unilaterally "opt" their child out of taking the STA/EOC test. If a parent/student elects to use substitute assessments to meet graduation requirements, full responsibility shall fall on the parent/student. A student electing to substitute an assessment for graduation purposes must still take the corresponding Course (EOC) assessment required under TEC, §39.023(a), at least once for federal accountability purposes.

