

December 16, 2020

Subject: Request Participation in New Item Type Cognitive Lab

To the ESC and District Testing Coordinator Addressed:

This communication is a request for your participation in cognitive labs designed to study new item types for the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®).

House Bill 3906, 86help inform the new item typeand the Texas Education Agency (TEA) is continuing to collect feedback on potential new item types.

As announced at the 2020 Texas Assessment Conference, TEA will conduct cognitive labs to gather evidence supporting the criteria used in determining what item type(s) will be used to measure specific content standards. Through these cognitive labs, TEA will investigate the processes students use when responding to test items. Your students' participation in these cognitive labs will help inform the selection of new item types that will appear on future state assessments.

Request for District Participation

The 2021 STAAR cognitive labs will take place from February 8–19, 2021, and will include new item types for all content areas assessed on the statewide assessment—reading/writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

any think-aloud or interview protocol. The independent activity will include up to ten items and a questionnaire.

Registration

Public school districts and open-enrollment charter schools that would like to volunteer can [register online](#) now through **January 15, 2021**. After the registration window closes, Pearson will contact participating districts and charters schools with additional information, including detailed schedules for the cognitive labs.

For questions and assistance regarding the information in this communication, contact Pearson's Customer Service Center using the [live chat feature](#), the [Pearson Customer Support Form](#), or by calling 800-627-0225.

Thank you in advance for your support and participation in the development of STAAR new item types.
October 8, 2020

Texas Education Agency
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