

April 23, 2009

ACTION REQUIRED

TO THE DISTRICT TESTING COORDINATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) Rater Training for 2009-2010 School Year

The purpose of this communication is to provide information about TELPAS holistic rating training for the 2009-2010 school year. Title III, Part A administrative funds may be used to offset the costs of this training. Please distribute this letter and attachments to appropriate district and campus personnel for use in planning next year's training activities, calendar, and budget.

Training for 2009-2010 will be similar to that of 2008-2009, with the following changes:

- The window for summer/fall training will begin one week earlier (July 27).
- The spring assembling and verifying online course will launch one week earlier (January 4).
- The 2–12 level 1 online course will launch at the same time as other level 1 and 2 courses in the spring (February 1).
- Teachers who do not meet performance expectations on the practice activities in the level 2 online refresher course in the spring will be required to receive supplemental training.

There have been substantial statewide TELPAS gains for grades 3–12 in recent years. Providing staff development on the state's English language proficiency standards (ELPS) in conjunction with TELPAS rater training will enable Texas school districts to continue to make strides in helping our more than 800,000 ELLs meet increasingly challenging educational standards.

Assessment Contact Information

Texas Education Agency

Office of Assessment, Accountability, and Data Quality, Criss Cloudt, Associate Commissioner

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Attachments: Training activities and schedule; online training course descriptions; list of TELPAS holistic rating training entities; options for conducting holistic rating training

cc: ESC testing coordinator; ESC and district bilingual/ESL coordinator