

# Expedited Waiver – Timeline for Accelerated Instruction

As part of the Student Success Initiative (SSI), districts must provide accelerated instruction to students in grades 5 and 8 who do not demonstrate proficiency on the STAAR reading and/or mathematics tests. This accelerated instruction must occur after each administration of the test, including the third administration. Students may advance to or be placed in the next grade level only if (1) they complete all accelerated instruction required by the grade placement committee (GPC), and (2) the GPC determines, by unanimous decision, that the students are likely to perform at grade level at the end of the next school year given additional accelerated instruction during the course of the year.

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To assist districts in meeting the accelerated instruction provision after the third administration of the test, the agency is allowing districts to apply for a waiver to adjust the timeline for providing accelerated instruction to students who fail the third administration. The waiver will be granted if districts meet certain conditions, including identifying and documenting the intensive instruction a student needs, targeting this instruction to the reporting categories on which the student was weak, and ensuring that this instruction is completed during the first six weeks of school. In addition to this intensive accelerated instruction, districts must develop an accelerated instruction plan that will provide the student with ongoing instructional support during the entire school year.