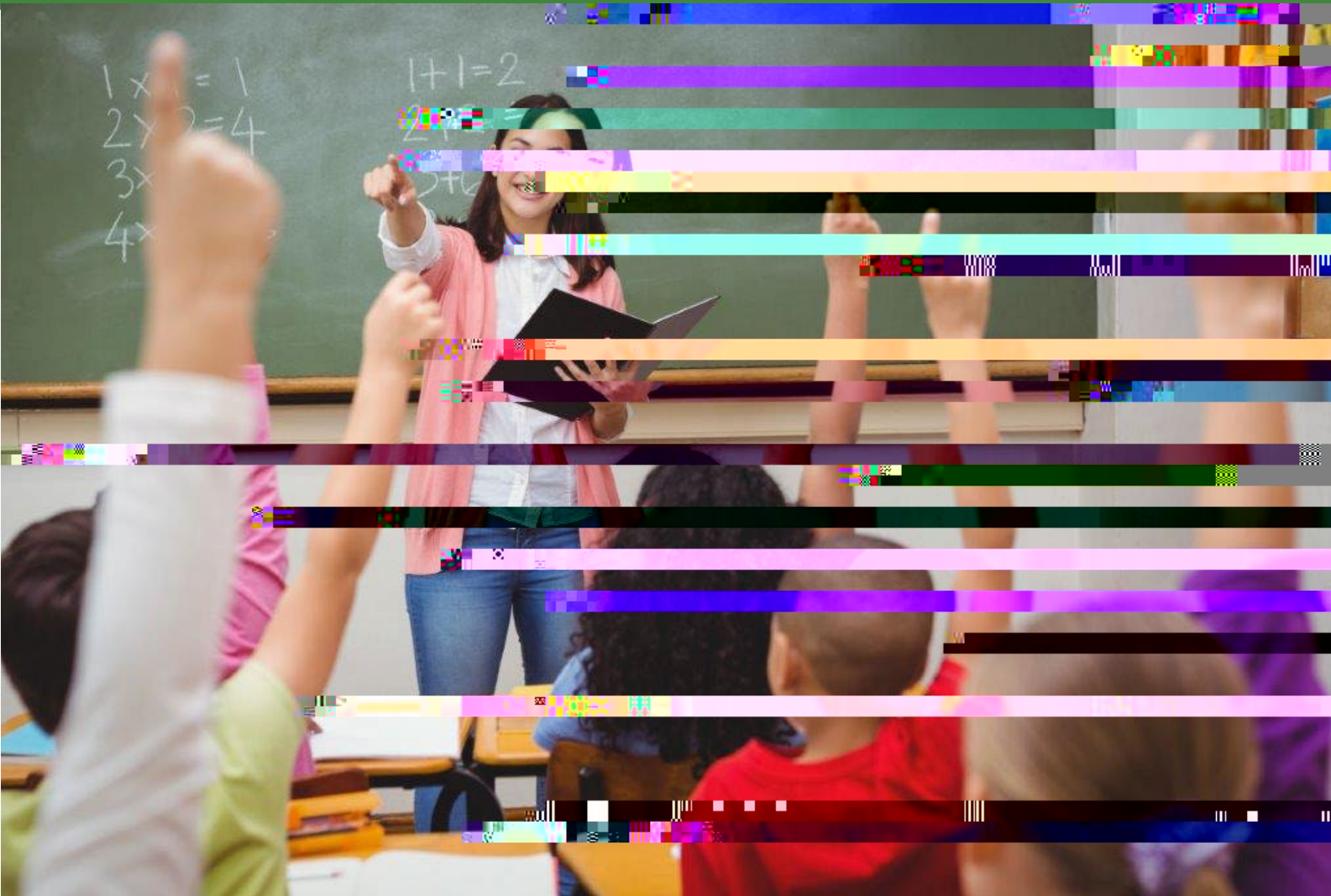# Texas Formative Assessment Resource

Educator Guide

Texas Educator Committees

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Resources

- x [Texas Assessment Program](#)
- x [Texas Formative Assessment Resource](#)
- x [Testing Personnel](#)
- x [District and Campus Coordinator Resources](#)
  - o [Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) User Guide](#)
  - o [Test Delivery System (TDS) User Guide](#)
  - o [Centralized Reporting System (CRS) User Guide](#)
- x [Learning Management System](#)
- x [Setting Up TDS Workstations](#)

Assessment Type	Sample Frequency	Sample Composition
Mini assessment	Every 2–3 days	4–5 questions covering 1–2 curriculum standards
Weekly assessment	Once a week	7–10 questions covering 3–4 curriculum standards
Monthly assessment	Every 3–4 weeks	About 15 questions covering about 10 curriculum standards
Warm-up or Exit ticket	While warm-ups and exit tickets can occur daily, it is important to note that class time constraints often allow for only a single question tied to a single curriculum standard. A teacher should review the cumulative reporting of a standard to understand a student's progress toward mastery.	

- **Build Assessments**—Educators may build assessments using questions from the STAARReleased Items Library or the Other Texas Items Library or using questions shared by other users or created by the educators themselves.

- **Schedule or Start a Test Session**—Once students are registered in TIDE and the assessment is built in TFAR, the educator must schedule a test session. A test session must be created before students can log in.

- **Print Test Tickets**—Authorized TIDE users can print test tickets and monitor test progress. The teacher must provide the session ID or test link to the students so they can join the session when it starts.

- **Launch TDS**—Educators must ensure that the secure browser ap

Item Type	Description
Passageset (Stimulus)	The student reads a passage or reviews a multimedia resource and responds to a set of associated questions.
Multiple Choice	The student selects a single answer from a list of options.
Multiple Select	The student selects more than one correct answer from a set of possible answers.
Hot Text	The student cites evidence by selecting highlighted text in a sentence, paragraph, or extended reading.
Hot Spot	The student responds by selecting one or more specific areas of a graphic.
Edit Task	The student responds by editing words or phrases in a sentence.
Edit Task Inline Choice	The student selects the correct answers from one or more dropdown menus.
Simple Text Entry	The student responds by writing a brief string of text such as a number, word, or phrase.

Sharing Test Content

The TFAR platform h as two test s haring d estinations: Share in Authoring an d Share to TDS Share in Authoring allows o ther u sers t o see, edit, or publish the assessment being shared. Share to TDSallows other users to administer the assessment being shared. When sharing with other users, recipients can be found by region, district, and institution F D P S X V . When searching for recipients, users can also be b roken do wn into individuals, workgroups, and institutions. In the Share to TDS option, a test window can be selected for the assessment being shared.

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Testing Systems Information

System Requirements

Test administrators must have a supported browser installed on their computer to use Cambium Assessment, Inc. systems. Refer to the Technology Resources page of the Texas Assessment website and the Minimum System Requirements page of the Coordinator Resources for a detailed list of system requirements, including supported operating systems and web brow sers. Test administrators should be familiar with a spreadsheet application to effectively use file uploads and extracts.

Approved Browsers

Students using personal computers running Windows, macOS, Ubuntu, Fedora, or Chrome OS should download and install either the Chrome or Firefox web browsers; Internet Explorer is not supported. Refer to the Setting Up TDS Workstations webpage for a complete list of supported browsers. Browsers should be set to full screen for optimal rendering of test content during testing.

Technical Tasks

The following is a list of tasks that campus technology staff must complete:

xC Set Up the Administrator Device