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At the Texas Education Agency (TEA), our goal is for all Texas children to enter school with the foundational knowledge and skills to be curious, confident and successful learners. This correspondence provides updates about approved early childhood instruments available for school system (school district or open-enrollment charter school) use, key dates for administration and reporting of instruments for prekindergarten, kindergarten and grades 1–2 along with guidance related to Early Reading Indicator coding and dyslexia screening requirements.

In accordance with <u>Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.169</u>, school districts and open-enrollment charter schools must select prekindergarten progress monitoring instruments from the updated <u>2024-2025</u> through 2026-

There are two free, Commissioner-approved reading instruments for grades 1 and 2: TPRI/Tejas LEE and mCLASS Texas. The authorization period for mCLASS Texas as a free, Commissioner-selected reading instrument for first and second grade is through August 2025 (TEC §28.006(b-1)).

Results from the required reading instrument administration in grades 1 and 2 are used to determine reporting of student Early Reading Indicator codes in the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) twice a year. For additional information, reference the following section titled "Early Reading Indicator (ERI) Code Guidance."

Learn more about each of the instruments approved by the Commissioner for grades 1 and 2 on the Grades 1 and 2 Data Tool Selection Guidance page.

A universal dyslexia screener must be conducted by the end of the school year for all kindergarten students and by January 31, 2025, for all grade 1 students (TEC §38.003(a)).

Commissioner-approved reading instruments include aligned dyslexia screening elements. These free tools meet the dyslexia screener requirements outlined in the Dyslexia Handbook; however, they are not required to be used by LEAs to fulfill dyslexia screener requirements.

The Dyslexia-Risk Code should be submitted in PEIMS for all kindergarten and grade 1 students by June 19, 2025. For additional information regarding dyslexia PEIMS coding, reference the <u>PEIMS Dyslexia Coding Flowchart</u>.

The ERI Code should be submitted for all students in kindergarten-grade 2 in PEIMS twice a year by December 12, 2024, and June 19, 2025.

For the fall submission (due December 12, 2024), school systems should report the ERI code based on BOY reading instrument assessment results. For the summer submission (due June 19, 2025), school systems should report the ERI code based on the latest assessment results available for students.

It is important to note that, while ERI codes should reflect data from the administered reading instrument, school systems have flexibility to also consider formative assessment data collected by teachers. This allows school systems to analyze multiple data points to inform instructional actions.

For additional information regarding early childhood instruments and requirements, visit the <u>Early Learning Assessments</u> webpage.

If you have any questions regarding prekindergarten, kindergarten, grade 1 or grade 2 instruments, please contact the Division of Early Childhood Education by submitting a ticket through the <u>ECE Support Portal</u>.