2023 Summer TSDS Training Questions and Answers
Updated: 8/31/2023

Core Collections

Census Block Tools
1. **Will the number of census block numbers increase from 18,000 for the new school year?**

   Census Block Group Numbers are obtained from the Census Bureau data which is updated every 10 years. The current block group numbers will go unchanged until they are updated based on the 2030 census. TEA will use the block group numbers from the 2020 census for nine more years. The 2030 Census Block Group numbers will be assigned through the Census Block Group tool in the 2032-2033 school year.

All Other Questions

Emergent Bilingual Students
1. **Do families who have already completed school registration with a Home Language Survey (HLS) form need to complete the new one?**

   No, this revision is not retroactive. The new required Home Language Survey with the third question is effective August 9, 2023. Any LEA that completes registration, whether online or in person, before August 9, 2023, would follow the existing enrollment process and families are not subject to completing the new form prior to August 9th.

2. **How should an LEA report the HOME-LANGUAGE-CODE (E0895) and STUDENT-LANGUAGE-CODE (E1590) when a parent lists more than one language for any of the three questions on the home language survey?**

   If a parent lists more than one language for any of the three questions on the home language survey, the LEA will enter only one language (language other than English) into their student information system. For example, a parent enters English, French, and German for question one on the HLS. The LEA would enter French or German for the HOME-LANGUAGE-CODE (E0895).

3. **Will TEA create a new data element for LEAs to report the type of language used by the student in a previous home setting?**

   No, at this time, TEA will not collect data on the type of language used by the student in a previous home setting. However, the response/s in the third question of the HLS may influence the second question regarding the languages spoken by the child.

4. **What is TEA doing to ensure LEAs use the new HLS form?**

TEA published a To the Administrator Addressed (TAA) letter outlining the new [Home Language Survey](#) requirements on August 3, 2023. Per the rule, LEAs must use the [Texas Education Agency (TEA) produced form](#) available in English and Spanish. Translations of the form in multiple other languages will be available on [txel.org](#) as translation work is completed. The Emergent Bilingual Support Division has provided the HLS in a fillable PDF to be uploaded to online platforms (when applicable).

5. **What date would LEAs report as the start date for the home and student language?**

    There is no longer the need to report dates for home or student language. In the TEDS version 2024.2.0, TEA removed the data elements BeginDate (E3010) and EndDate (E3020).

Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH)

1. **Can an LEA deny a PK transfer parent request from a military servicemember and a peace officer if the campus or LEA is at full capacity and does not have the funding to expand or add another PK program?**

    House Bill (HB) 1959 and HB 2892, 88*th* Regular Session, 2023, both enacted new Texas Education Code (TEC) sections numbered 25.0344, with each section addressing the transfer of certain students (children of peace officers and children of military servicemembers, respectively) in the same manner. As the Texas Education Agency (TEA) lacks rulemaking authority regarding these new transfer provisions of the TEC, TEA will not be taking a formal, interpretive position regarding the implementation of the provisions. Instead, TEA recommends that school districts seek legal counsel from their own attorneys regarding the new TEC sections.

2. **Is TEA placing any limitations for Districts of Innovation (DOI) to wait until the fourth Monday in August to begin the school year?**

    TEA has not received any legislative changes placing any limitation on the school start date for DOIs.

3. **Are non-DOI LEAs eligible for funding if they begin the school year prior to the fourth Monday in August?**

    Non-DOI LEAs will not receive funding for those weeks in which they began the school year prior to the fourth Monday in August. TEA does not have an exception in place for these occurrences.

4. **Does the SAAH have any additional information from the 88th legislative session regarding a four-day school week?**

Legislation was not passed regarding a four-day school week in either the regular or the subsequent two special sessions. At this time, the SAAH will not be updated.

5. **Would an LEA receive funding if a student repeats a Career and Technical Education (CTE) course   due to a parent request?**

HB 3803, Parent Retention legislation, indicates that a parent may request the student repeat any high school course. As a result, the LEA would receive funding when the student retakes the CTE course.

6. **Would an LEA be considered as meeting the average course length for the calendar year of at least 45 minutes a day, if an LEA has a 45 minute CTE course (CTE Code V1)?**

Yes, if the CTE class period averages a minimum of 45 minutes a day the LEA would be considered as meeting the average course length for the calendar year. To receive CTE weighted funding, CTE class periods must average a minimum of 45 minutes a day for the calendar year.

7. **If LEAs have a four-day school week, what is the minimum contact hours LEAs must meet for eight days versus ten days?**

The SAAH Section 5.5 CTE Contact Hour Codes will be updated to remove the reference to a ten day school period. To receive CTE weighted funding, course periods must be an average of at least 45 minutes a day. LEAs that include planned early release days, pep rallies, assemblies, etc. in their calendar, must ensure that the average course length for the calendar year is at least 45 minutes.