



House Bill – 5

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the purpose of House Bill 5?

A: There are two main purposes of HB-5.

- Reduce the number of state end-of-course assessments required for high school students to graduate.
- Allow high school students greater flexibility in choosing their courses while maintaining academic rigor.

Q: When does House Bill-5 go into effect?

A:

The reduction of high school testing requirements goes into effect for the 2013-14 school year.

The new graduation plans and changes to credit requirements go into effect with the freshman class of 2014-15.

NOTE: The State has yet to release specific details on new graduation requirements for current high school students.

What is changing with
House Bill-5?

STAAR End-of-Course Exams

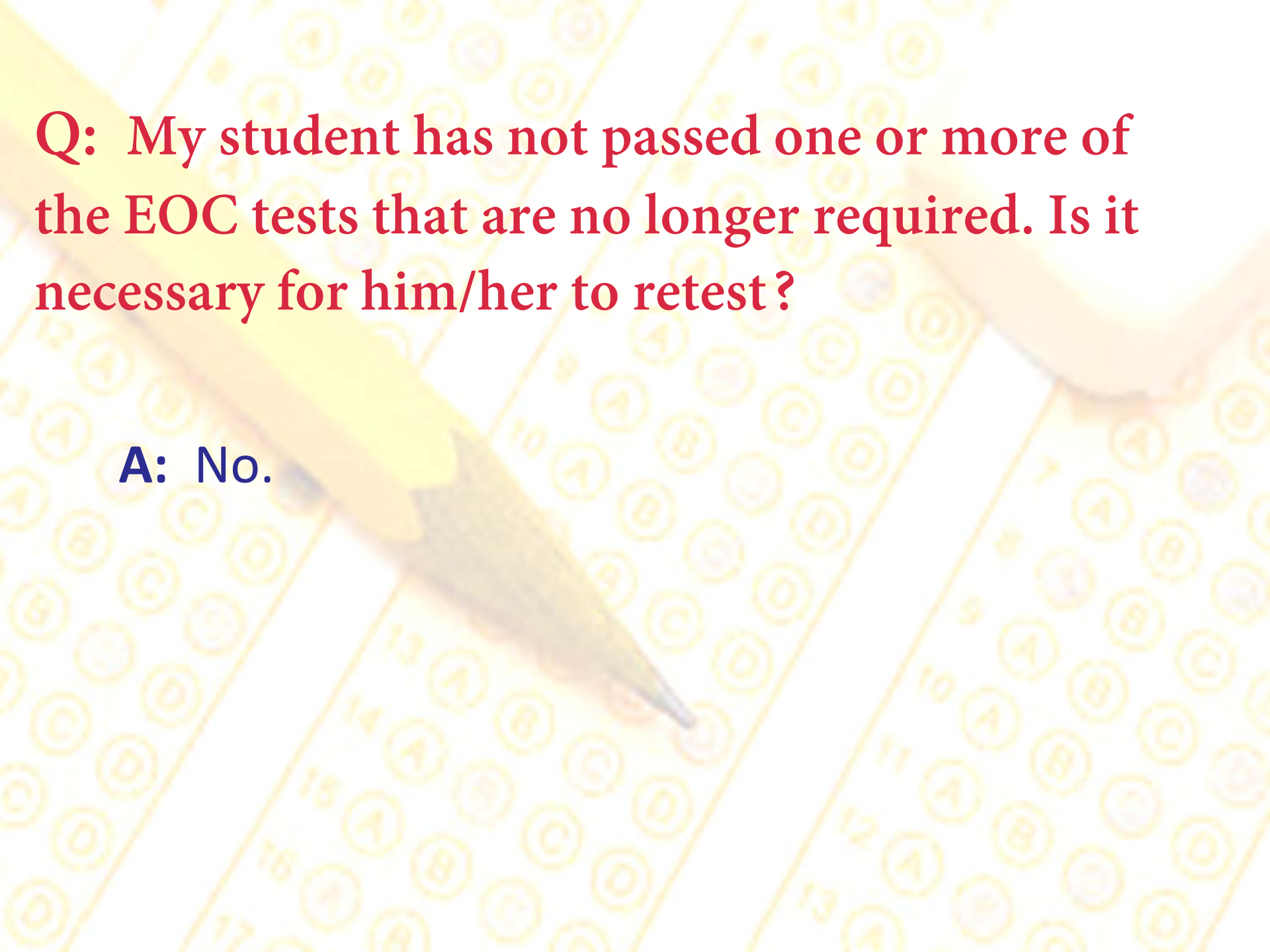
Which EOC tests have been eliminated?

- Geometry
- Algebra II
- English III (Reading and Writing)
- World History
- World Geography
- Chemistry
- Physics

Q: Which EOC tests are required for graduation?

A: The following five EOC tests are now required for graduation:

- English I (Reading and Writing)
- English II (Reading and Writing)
- Algebra I
- Biology
- US History

A close-up, slightly blurred background image showing a hand holding a pencil over a multiple-choice test sheet. The test sheet has rows of questions, each with four options labeled A, B, C, and D. The pencil is positioned over one of the options, and the hand is visible at the top right. The overall tone is warm and yellowish.

Q: My student has not passed one or more of the EOC tests that are no longer required. Is it necessary for him/her to retest?

A: No.

Q: My student took one of the required EOC tests, but didn't pass. Is it necessary for him/her to retest?

A: Yes. A student who fails any of the required assessments are required to retest.



Q: When will students take EOC retests ?

A: EOC retests will be administered three times throughout the year in December, Spring and July.



What is changing with House Bill-5?

Graduation Requirements

**Foundation High School Program
+ Endorsements**

What is the new graduation plan?

- Students will earn a Foundation High School Program Diploma and declare an endorsement area.

Q: What are the course requirements of the Foundation High School Program (FHSP)?

- **A:** Requirements of the FHSP are as follows:

English – 4 credits

- English I, II, III, and an advanced English

Math – 3 credits

- Algebra I, Geometry, and an advanced math

Science – 3 credits

- Biology, IPC or an advanced science, and an additional advanced science

Social Studies – 3 credits

- US History, ½ credit government, ½ credit economics, and either world history or world geography, or a new course combining world history and world geography (to be developed)

LOTE – 2 credits

- Credits must be in the same language.

Fine Arts – 1 credit

Physical Education – 1 credit

Electives – 5 credits including

- .5 credit Speech (KISD requirement pending future Board approval)
- .5 credit Health (KISD requirement pending future Board approval)

+ Endorsement – 4 additional credits

Students are expected to earn an endorsement in one of 5 areas. Each endorsement requires

- *a 4th math credit**
- *a 4th science credit**
- *2 endorsement-specific electives*

**Flexibility in course selection may allow the 4th math and science credits to correlate to the endorsement area.*

Q: What are the five endorsement areas?

A: The endorsement areas and the career fields to which they relate are as follows:

1. STEM

- Science, Technology-including computer science, Engineering, and advanced Math)

2. Public Services

- Health science and occupations, education, law enforcement, culinary arts, hospitality

3. Business and Industry

- Information technology, database management, marketing, accounting, finance, graphic design, construction, welding, automotive technology, and agriculture

4. Arts and Humanities

- Political science, literature, world languages, cultural studies, history, and fine arts

5. Multidisciplinary Studies

- This endorsement provides students the opportunity to take a variety of courses from each of the other four endorsement areas.

Q: Which endorsements will be offered in Katy ISD ?

A: Katy ISD will offer endorsements in the five areas below :

1. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)
2. Public Services
3. Business and Industry
4. Arts and Humanities
5. Multidisciplinary Studies