

# Texas Education Agency

## State Waivers Unit

### Application for Expedited and General State Waivers

#### Instructions

Mail or fax application to:

Texas Education Agency  
State Waiver Unit  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
Austin, TX 78701-1494  
Phone (512) 463-9630  
Fax (512) 475-3666  
Email [waiyers@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:waiyers@tea.state.tx.us)

#### Timeline for Accelerated Instruction Waiver

The waiver is subject to the conditions listed in the attached guidelines <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=7085#Timeline>

#### Teacher Data Portal of the Texas Assessment Management System Waiver

The waiver is subject to the conditions provided in the attached guidelines <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=7085#Portal>

#### Foreign Exchange Student Waiver

The waiver is subject to the provisions in the attached guidelines and FAQ  
Guidelines <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=2147500401>  
FAQ <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=2147500402>

#### Waiver Information

District name. Waskom ISD	District/Campus #: 102903	Phone: (903) 687-3361	Fax: (903) 687-3253	
Address. 365 School Ave., P.O. Box 748	City: Waskom	State: TX	Zip code. 75692	
Contact first name. Margie	MI: S	Contact last name: Bell	Phone: (903) 687-3361	E-mail: mbell@waskomisd.net

Superintendent:  Dr.  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.

Jimmy E. Cox

Printed Name

Signature

Board President:  Dr.  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.

Michael Allwhite

Printed Name

Signature

Date of board approval: 03/19/12

Board vote: for- against- abstain- absent- \*

Comments from appropriate Site-based Decision Making Committee:

The district SBDM committee supports the proposed OFYP plan as described in this application and in accordance with TEC 29.0821.

*Margie Bell, Ed.D.*  
Committee Chairperson (print)

Margie Bell

Committee Chairperson Signature

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#### Expedited Waivers

**Staff Development Waiver**

Pursuant to Texas Education Code (TEC) §25.081, this waiver allows the district or charter school to train staff on various educational strategies designed to improve student performance in lieu of a maximum of three days of student instruction.

Number of days requested:

Requested years:  2011 - 2012  2012 - 2013  2013 - 2014

**Reading/English Language Arts; Mathematics; Science; and/or Social Studies Staff Development Waiver**

Pursuant to TEC §25.081, this waiver allows the district or charter school to conduct additional staff training for reading/English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies strategies aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in lieu of a maximum of two days of student instruction.

Reading/English Language Arts  Mathematics  Science  Social Studies

Requested years:  2011 - 2012  2012 - 2013  2013 - 2014

**Staff Development through Participation in Eligible Conferences Waiver**

Pursuant to TEC §25.081, this waiver allows the district or charter school to send staff to eligible conferences for staff development to improve student performance in lieu of one day of student instruction.

Requested years:  2011 - 2012  2012 - 2013  2013 - 2014

**Early Release Waiver**

Pursuant to TEC §25.082(a), this waiver allows the district or charter school to conduct school for less than seven (7) hours for a total of six (6) days of student instruction to provide additional training in educational methodologies and/or to provide time to meet the needs of students and local communities.

Number of days requested:

Requested years:  2011 - 2012  2012 - 2013  2013 - 2014

**Modified Schedule State Assessment Testing Days Waiver**

Pursuant to TEC §25.082(a), this waiver allows the district or charter school to modify the schedule of classes on State Assessment testing days during the current school year to reduce interruptions during testing period.

Requested years:  2011 - 2012  2012 - 2013  2013 - 2014

**Timeline for Accelerated Instruction Waiver**

Pursuant to §28.0211(a) and (a-2), this waiver allows districts and charter schools to adjust the timeline for providing the accelerated instruction required for placement in/promotion to the next grade. This waiver is limited to students who fail the third administration of the grade 5 or 8 TAKS reading and/or mathematics test. (Please see instruction section)

Requested years:  2011 - 2012  2012 - 2013  2013 - 2014

**Teacher Data Portal of the Texas Assessment Management System Waiver**

Pursuant to §32.258, this waiver allows school districts and charter schools to apply for a waiver of participation in the teacher portal component of the Texas Assessment Management System. A waiver is granted if a district can provide assurance that the local teacher data portal meets the statutory requirements outlined in TEC 32.258. (Please see instruction section)

Requested years:  2011 - 2012  2012 - 2013  2013 - 2014

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**Foreign Exchange Student Waiver**

Pursuant to TEC §25.001(e), this expedited waiver allows the district to limit the number of foreign exchange students to a number that is not less than five per high school. An application to limit the number to less than five per high school must be submitted as a general waiver. (Please see instruction section)

- create a financial or staffing hardship for the district;
- diminish the district's ability to provide high quality educational services for the district's domestic students; or
- require domestic students to compete with foreign exchange students for educational resources.

Number of students requested (per high school):

Requested years:  2011 - 2012     2012 - 2013     2013 - 2014

### General Waivers

**Questions 1 - 7 on page 4 are REQUIRED for all General Waivers**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course requirement   | <input type="checkbox"/> Course requirement (CTE)                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy related services on-campus (CEHI)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic course program                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For foreign exchange student waiver, description must address the circumstances applicable to the district under TEC § Section 25.001(e) (1), (2), or (3). Please submit local policy with application. (Please see instruction section) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):<br><u>OFYP</u> |

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1. Give a brief narrative description of the requested waiver.

**Waskom ISD is seeking a waiver of 8 instructional days to implement an Optional Flexible Year Program (OFYP) that will target students at risk of not being promoted to the next grade level, failing courses and/or not meeting standards on Texas state assessments.**

2. Does the district or campus plan reflect the need for this waiver? If yes, what is the specific objective impacted by the waiver?

**Yes, the district improvement plan reflects the need for this waiver. The specific objective impacted by the waiver is Goal 1 Objective 1: By the spring of 2013, all student groups will meet or exceed the reading, writing, math, science and social studies state averages on state administered assessments. All students and student groups will achieve satisfactory performance on state measures.**

3. Cite the Texas Education Code or the Texas Administration Code that the district or campus wishes to waive?

**In accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC) 29.0821, a school district may modify their instructional calendar to provide a flexible year program to meet the educational needs of its students, including providing intensive instructional services. A school district approved by the commissioner of education to implement an Optional Flexible Year Program (OFYP) may reduce the number of instructional days for certain students.**

4. Describe the plan to be implemented, if the waiver is granted.

**The Waskom ISD Board of Trustees approved the instructional calendar on February 13, 2012. This calendar included the proposed modification of releasing eligible students for 8 days (Nov. 15-16, 2012; Jan. 3-4, 2013; April 18-19, 2013; and May 9-10, 2013). The instructional calendar includes 180 days of instruction for students who fall into the at-risk category of failing to promote to the next grade level or of not meeting standards on a Texas state administered test. The waived instructional days for students not at-risk will provide teachers an opportunity to target the the smaller number of students who are at risk and need intervention.**

5. How will granting this waiver help achieve the district's or campus' objective?

**The waived instructional days for students not at-risk will provide teachers an opportunity to target the smaller number of students who are at risk and need intervention. All teachers on participating campuses will provide instruction which will result in an estimated teacher-student ratio of 1 teacher for every 6 students. The focus of the instruction will be in the core subjects and based on each student's need.**

6. Please explain how the school district or campus will evaluate the impact of the waiver towards meeting the district's or campus' goal.

**Student progress will be monitored through diagnostic testing and benchmark test data. The student performance on the 2013 state administered tests will provide data for a summative evaluation.**

7. Please specify the school years for which the waiver is requested, to a maximum of three years.

Requested years    2011 - 2012    2012 - 2013    2013 - 2014

Print Form