

**TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
STATE WAIVERS UNIT**

APPLICATION FOR FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION WAIVER

First Day of Instruction Waiver, pursuant to TEC §25.0811. This waiver allows the district to begin instruction for students before the week in which August 21st falls. For this purpose, Sunday is considered the first day of the week. The school district is required to publish a notice 60 days prior to submitting an application. The notice shall include the intent to apply and the specific date the district intends to begin the first day of instruction for students. The district shall hold a public hearing; and in the waiver application, the district shall include a summary of opinions and any consensus of opinion expressed at the public hearing concerning the beginning date of instruction for students. This waiver is granted for one year and an application is required for each subsequent year. **Bolded** items must be completed.

SECTION 1. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION.

District Name:	<u>Gilmer ISD</u>	County/District No.	<u>230 - 902</u>
Address:	<u>500 S. Trinity</u>	Telephone No.	<u>(903) - 843 - 2525</u>
	<u>Gilmer, TX 75644</u>	Fax No.	<u>(903) - 843 - 5279</u>
Contact Person:	<u>Sigrid Yates</u>	Telephone No.	<u>(903) - 843 - 2525</u>

SECTION 2. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION.

Superintendent:	<u>Rickey D. Albritton</u>	_____
	Typed Name	Signature
Board President:	<u>Mike Waller</u>	_____
	Typed Name	Signature
Date Board Approval: _____		
Board Vote – For _____ Against _____ Abstain _____ Absent _____		

SECTION 3. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION.

Comments of appropriate Site-Based Decision Making Committee: This would provide more instructional days before the State Assessment. The community has a yearly festival that falls in October with student holidays during the week. An earlier start date would provide additional instructional days to replace the student holidays that week. It is a good idea for the community.

SBDM Committee Chairperson Signature _____

SECTION 4. COMPLETE THIS SECTION. PLEASE USE SEPARATE PAGE IF NECESSARY.

1. Give a brief narrative description of the requested waiver. The first day of instruction will be August 15.

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. Gilmer ISD will build a strong, rigorous curriculum (PK-12) consisting of reading, writing, mathematics, history, science, fine arts, foreign language, technology, and wellness.

3. Describe the plan to be implemented, if the waiver is granted. Students will begin school on August 15 and school will end May 30.

4. How will granting this waiver help achieve the district or campus's objective? Semesters will be balanced and students will receive additional instructional days prior to the State Assessment.

5. Please explain how the school district or campus will evaluate the impact of the waiver towards meeting the district or campus's goal. Increased student achievement and improvement in all areas of TAKS.

6. Enter the date the public notice was published. __ / __ / __

7. Enter start date included on the public notice published. __ / __ / __

8. Enter the date of the public hearing. __ / __ / __

9. Include the copy of the public notice with the application.

10. Summarize consensus of opinions expressed at the public hearing: _____

11. Provide the following information regarding the public hearing:

Number attending the public hearing	_____
Number registering in favor of the waiver	_____
Number registering against the waiver	_____
Number registering no position regarding the waiver	_____

12. In the event other methods are used to gather community input regarding this waiver request, indicate whether the input received was characterized as favorable, unfavorable or neutral:

All applications should be mailed or faxed. The fax number is (512) 475-3666.

State Waiver Unit
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701-1494
Phone (512) 463-9630