
EdPlan™ Formative Assessment FAQs

October 2012

What is EdPlan™?

EdPlan™ provides predictive and diagnostic assessments aligned to the District's curriculum standards, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards, and the Common Core State Standards. The system allows teachers and administrators to manage test items, produce, schedule, and publish both online and hard copy tests, and will warehouse multiple years of assessment data.

How do I access the site?

Type the following URL into your browser: <https://txhouston.d2sc.com> and press Enter. At the login screen, enter your user name and password. Click Submit.

How do I change my password?

1. On the Main Menu, click the Change Password button. Note: depending on your browser, you may need to scroll down to see the Change Password button.
2. On the Account Security Details screen, enter all required information, as denoted by the asterisk (*). Note: your password must be 7 characters and include 1 number. Passwords are case sensitive.
3. Click the OK button (the diskette icon located in the upper right corner).

What if I forget my password and/or my password security question?

1. Click on the Recover Password link located on the login screen. The Password Recovery Wizard will begin.
2. Enter the requested information: user name, answer to security question and birthday. Click OK.
3. After your account has been verified, the Account Information screen will open.
4. Enter a new password, and confirm the password.
5. Select Save. Your new account is now active, and the password is set to the new password.

Is EdPlan™ web-based?

Yes. Users can access their accounts 24/7 from either Mac and PC Environments and browsers.

Is there a limit to the number of assessments I can give each year?

No. You can use the tool as frequently as needed to improve student mastery and learning.

Is there a way to keep district items and assessments separate from the ones the teachers use for building classroom tests?

Yes. This process is managed through the content collections. Some items are reserved for district use only.

Does EdPlan™ have Texas state standards included in it?

Yes. The system is preloaded with the District's curriculum standards, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards, and the Common Core State Standards.

Can I cut and paste into EdPlan™?

Yes. You can cut and paste from a Word document into EdPlan™. Note: punctuation symbols such as "" ? or & may not transfer into EdPlan™ through cutting and pasting and may need to be corrected.

Does EdPlan™ support open-ended questions?

The system allows for questions in multiple formats including multiple choice, gridded response and open-ended/constructed response questions. When grading an assessment, the system acknowledges a question that requires human involvement and skips that question in the grading process, leaving the final assessment score open until a score for the individual question(s) has been assigned. The system also supports the inclusion of scoring rubrics.

How do I update a student's demographic information in EdPlan™?

Students' demographic information is imported from Chancery SMS into EdPlan™ on a nightly basis. Chancery SMS is the database system that stores all current student information. If there is incorrect demographic information in EdPlan™, please make a note of it and contact your building administrator for assistance in updating Chancery SMS with the correct information.

What is the Item Bank?

The Item Bank is a robust bank that allows educators to select from a variety of topics in each subject area and the specific standards and items that most closely reflect the curriculum and instruction. Educators can select the most appropriate items for their student population and for the time of year the test is given in order to create custom beginning-, middle-, and end-of-year formative assessments aligned to state and national standards and based on the HISD Curriculum's scope and sequence documents.

The items in the Item Bank have been checked for a match to standards and specifications and aligned where appropriate. The items are aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), which are assessed on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR). As new items are added to the Item Bank, each item will be checked for a match to these standards.

How was the Item Bank created?

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) purchased the Formative Assessment Item Bank (Item Bank) that was originally developed by Educational Testing Service (ETS). NWEA continues to contract with ETS to help maintain and enhance the Item Bank.

Are items in the Item Bank available in English and Spanish?

All of the items in the Item Bank are available in English. NWEA is in the process of translating some items into Spanish. NWEA recognizes the importance of having Spanish items available in the Item Bank and plans to continue translating more items in the future.

Who should be trained on EdPlan™?

All teachers and other campus-based staff that write, monitor, and/or deliver assessments should participate in training.

For HISD implementation related questions, please contact Ben Hernandez or Betty Garcia at

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