Renaissance STAR Vendor FAQ

**Vendor Name: Renaissance**

**Assessment(s) Name: STAR**

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| Question | Answer |
| What grades are covered? | K-3 Literacy, K-12 Reading, K-8 Math, Algebra I\*, Algebra II\*, Geometry\*  *\*SGPs are not available and can be used as Option 2 Pre-test/Post-test only. District sets expected growth targets* |
| Is there a pre/post test? | Yes, for the purposes of TIA districts could use Pre/Post-test options 1 and 2. |
| What are the Renaissance Star assessments? | Star Early Literacy (K-3 emergent readers)   * TEKS aligned in both English and Spanish * 10 domains and 41 skill sets involving emergent literacy, foundational skills, and comprehension * English assessment includes numeracy   Star Reading (K-12 independent readers)   * TEKS aligned in both English and Spanish * Focus on vocabulary and comprehension skills plus some foundational skills   Star Math (K-8, Algebra I, Geometry, and Limited Algebra II and Pre-Calculus)   * TEKS aligned in both English and Spanish |
| What was the Renaissance Star Assessments designed to do? | The Star assessments help educators set student growth goals using expected growth based on assessment history, using the student growth percentile (SGP), as it describes a student’s growth compared to other students with similar prior test scores (their academic peers). For additional details about SGP, please see the SGP whitepaper named Student Growth Percentile in Star Assessment. |
| How can I use the Renaissance Star assessments? | Educators can use these assessments and the data that results to answer many questions related to their students, including what they are learning and what instruction they may need next. Renaissance Star assessments are aligned to the TEKS and can be used for:   * **Universal screening.** The Renaissance Star assessments help teachers determine whether students are working on grade level, as well as how they are performing in relation to school or district benchmarks and cut scores. * **Progress monitoring.** The Renaissance Star assessments can be administered as often as weekly to track a student’s progress through an intervention. * **Differentiating instruction.** Educators can gage what students are ready to learn and what skills are appropriate for students or learning groups to work on. * **Forecasting STAAR proficiency**. Star Reading and Star Math can identify which students are ready to take and pass the STAAR and which ones are not. * **Estimating mastery of TEKS.** Educators and administrators can understand current levels of TEKS mastery at the individual student or group level. * **Measuring growth.** The Renaissance Star assessments can provide longitudinal data and normed scores to compare achievement year-over-year and against a student’s peers nationally. |
| Do the Renaissance Star assessments provide expected growth targets for students? | Yes, the Renaissance Star assessments provide targeted growth goals using an in-product goal-setting tool that creates individualized goals based on educator input, or educators can choose from pre-defined goals based on a student’s most recent test. Using the goal-setting tool, teachers can select groups of students, entire classrooms, or individual students, the time frame for the goals, and select custom levels that set growth goals based on the anticipated SGP growth. |
| How can districts use the Star assessments to determine end-of-year student growth for purposes of TIA? | Educators can run the **Progress Monitoring Report**, which tracks a student’s progress toward goals. After each test, a student’s score, indicated by a green, blue, yellow, or red circle, depending on the benchmark category, appears on the graph. After four tests, the program generates the student’s actual growth, represented by a black trend line. This allows teachers to track each student’s progress toward individual goals and determine whether that progress is sufficient or if a new or different intervention is needed. Renaissance Star tests can be given as often as weekly to monitor progress.  During the end-of-year period, stakeholders can run the **Growth Report** that summarizes growth between two testing periods in the same school year to help educators determine whether students are reaching their individual growth expectations. Teachers can run the report for a class or a specific group of students. Administrators can run it to see growth for each class, grade, or school in a district. The report displays several scores, including SGP which compares students’ growth to the growth of their academic peers nationwide. In addition, a report called the Goal History report can show lists of students by class who have or have not met the goals set using the goal-setting tool. The Star Goal History Report is used to monitor how well students are progressing toward their Star assessment goals. |
| What types of data reporting capabilities are included with the Star assessments? | Reports can be grouped into the following categories with the name of the report under each category:   * Screening and instructional planning   + Screening Report   + Star Record Book   + Instructional Planning Report   + Goal History Report * Growth and progress   + Growth Report   + Student Progress Monitoring Report   + Annual Progress Report   + Test Record * State performance and mastery   + State Performance Report—Student   + State Performance Report—Class   + State Standards Mastery   + Monitor Student Mastery—Reading   + Monitor Student Mastery—Math   + Diagnostic Report   + ACT®/SAT® Readiness Report * Test status and results   + Test Activity   + Summary Report   + Reading Range Report * Parent and other reports   + Parent Report—English and Spanish   + Family Report – English and Spanish |

For more information on this resource please refer to the vendor website and reach out to a representative.

Vendor Website: <https://www.renaissance.com/>

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For more information on the Teacher Incentive Allotment, please visit the [Teacher Incentive Allotment website.](https://tiatexas.org/)