To the Education Service Center and District Staff Members Addressed:

This communication is to inform you of the following upcoming activities for the Texas Assessment Program.

UPLOADING STUDENT INFORMATION IN TIDE

Based on feedback from districts, the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) has been updated for the 2023–2024 school year. When using the *Upload Student Information* task to upload student information in TIDE, the template will retain previously uploaded values when specific fields are left blank. Refer to the Student Registration Upload File Format document on the TIDE Upload File Formats webpage for detailed information on whether this applies to a specific field. If applicable, "<blank> = database value retained" is included as an acceptable value. If not applicable, a blank value will replace the previously submitted information.

Student information that is currently stored in TIDE may be validated by exporting student records in the Upload-Ready File. Districts must verify all fields, including fields that require yearly updates (e.g., Years in U.S. Schools and Above Grade Level) in TIDE for accuracy by the dates listed on the Calendar of Events. Districts can update student information with templates available through either the *Upload Student Information* task or the *Upload Additional Student Fields* task.

For questions or assistance regarding the information in this communication, contact Texas Testing Support at 833-601-8821, TexasTestingSupport@cambiumassessment.com, or TexasAssessment.gov via live chat.