

## TPSP Assessment

The TPSP includes an assessment system that encourages high levels of student performance. Schools and districts may use the results of this system to assess the quality of services for their gifted students.

## Student Benefits

- Students appreciate the opportunity to pursue their passions.
- Services for gifted/talented students at TPSP schools are appropriately challenging and include options in the four core academic areas and in creativity.
- Students from schools that had participated in TPSP for three years were significantly more likely to enroll in advanced courses in grade 10 than students from non-participating schools.
- Students are able to use exit-level projects (typically produced in grades 11 and 12) for college, university, and scholarship applications.

## How to Ensure Your Child's Success in the TPSP

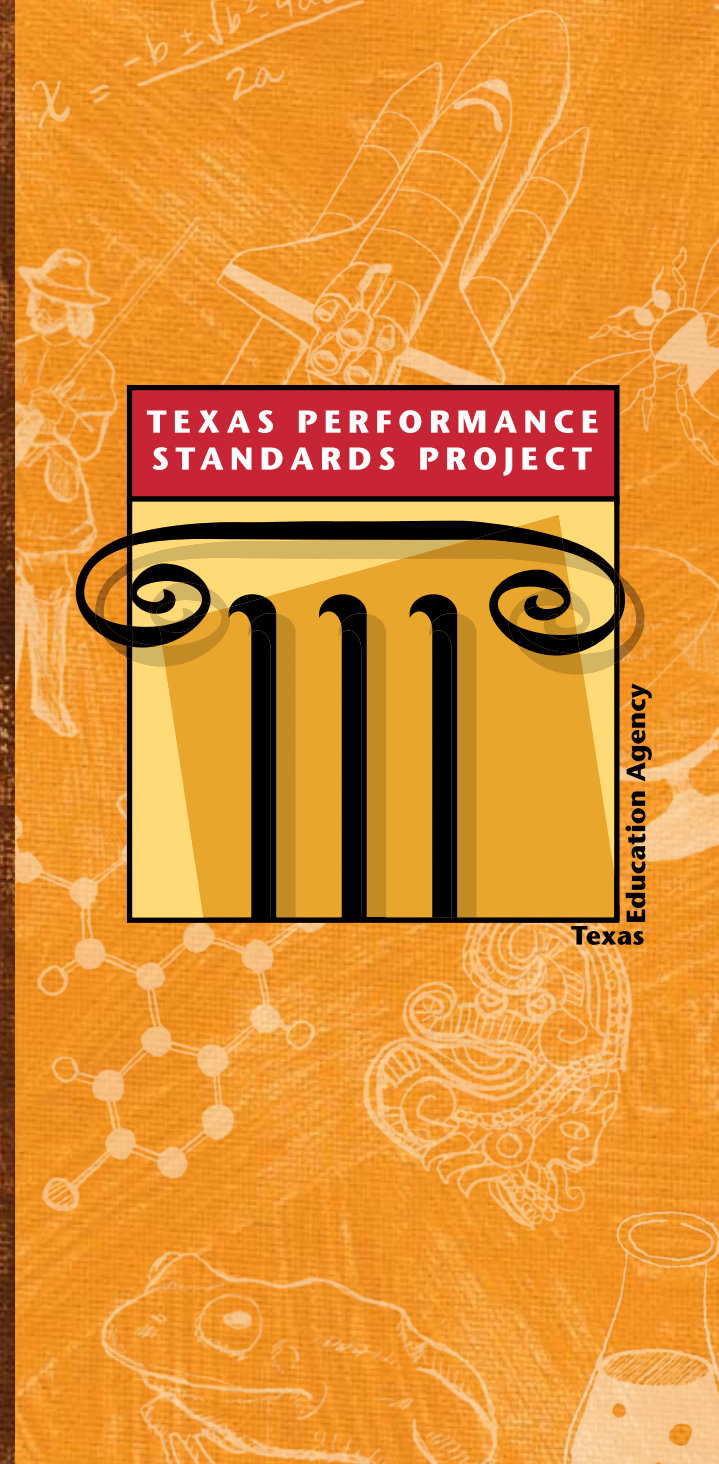
- Learn more about the TPSP at [www.texaspsp.org](http://www.texaspsp.org).
- Ask your child periodically how his/her project is progressing.
- Check in with your child's teacher on his/her progress.

## Contact Information

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Visit the Texas Performance Standards Project website at: [www.texaspsp.org](http://www.texaspsp.org).

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**Information for Parents**



# What is the Texas Performance Standards Project?

## Program Summary

The TPSP is designed to help districts reach the state goal for gifted/talented students:

Students who participate in services designed for gifted students will demonstrate skills in **self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication** as evidenced by the development of **innovative products and performances** that reflect **individuality and creativity** and are **advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment**. High school graduates who have participated in services for gifted students will have produced **products and performances of professional quality** as part of their program services.

– Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students

Additionally, the TPSP offers appropriate rigor and relevance for all students through its instruction in research skills and opportunities for students to explore in depth their own areas of interest.

## Curriculum

For kindergarten through grade 10, the TPSP offers two or more interdisciplinary units called tasks. Aligned with the TEKS, each task has guided instruction and opportunities for independent research in multiple content areas. At the high school exit level, the TPSP encourages a year-long independent study under the guidance of a mentor who is an expert in the student's area of study.



**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP) is to capture the high levels of academic performance of gifted/talented students through independent research.

## Course Credit

The TPSP can be incorporated into any existing class. At the exit level, course credit may be earned for independent studies conducted in approved courses, such as Independent Study in Mathematics or Scientific Research and Design.

## Distinguished Achievement Program

By completing a TPSP project, high school students may earn credit for one of four advanced measures required for graduation under the Distinguished Achievement Program.

## College Readiness

Participation in the TPSP directly develops the skills and traits cited most often by higher education faculty as those necessary for success in post-secondary education – critical reasoning, problem-solving, academic integrity, and the abilities to conduct in-depth research and work independently. Thus, TPSP implementation helps districts achieve the goal adopted by the Texas P-16 Council to “ensure that every Texas student is college ready when exiting high school and is competitive in a global economy upon timely completion of a post-secondary degree.”