

2021-22 Alternate Assessment Justification

The following must be completed by districts that contribute to the state exceeding the 1% cap for students participating in the alternate assessment and will be posted on the department website upon receipt.

District Name: Lake County

	% of Alternative Assessments 2017-18	% of Alternate Assessments 2018-19	% of Alternate Assessments 2020-21	% of Alternate Assessments 2021-22	Projected % of Alternate Assessments 2022-23
MSAA ELA	2.46	2.13	3.27	3.32	3.2
MSAA Math	2.46	2.07	3.24	3.36	3.2
TCAP- Alt Science	2.55	<i>*Field test year, no data available</i>	3.25	3.39	3.2

1. **Eligibility Determination Process:** Describe the policies, training and supports in place to ensure IEP teams appropriately identify students for participation on the alternate assessments related to each of the three criteria. *Completing the form in EasyIEP is not sufficient justification. The description should include training or processes to ensure the IEP team is carefully considering both the student's data and the implication of participation in the alternate assessment.*
 - a. Criterion One: The student has a significant cognitive disability. Only students with the most significant cognitive disabilities should be considered for the alternate assessment.
 - b. Criterion Two: The student is learning content linked to (derived from) state content standards.

- c. **Criterion Three:** The student requires extensive direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains in the grade- and age-appropriate curriculum.

Lake County Schools identify students based on data and IEP team decisions. The decision for participation in the alternate assessments should be based on data. Possible sources of data the IEP team may consider reviewing include psychological evaluation reports, results of individual cognitive ability tests, adaptive behavior skills data, results of individual or group-administered achievement assessments, district-wide alternate assessments, individual reading assessments, findings of communication or language proficiency assessments, teacher-collected data from classroom observations, progress monitoring data, and IEPs. Lake County Schools follow the guidelines set by the state when discussing the participation in the alternate assessment. Consideration of Criterion I, II, and III are addressed at the IEP meetings. Teachers have participated in local training for alternate assessment eligibility.

2. **Disproportionality:** Using your data by primary eligibility, describe your district data, including disproportionate participation on the alternate assessment and a plan for reducing/eliminating disproportionality.

Most of the students participating in the alternate assessment are intellectually disabled. A few of the students fall under other qualifying disabilities; however, they all meet the alternate assessment criteria. Lake County Schools' IEP teams must first consider student participation in the general grade-level assessment, with or without accommodations, before considering student participation in an alternate assessment. However, the IEP team will decide based on data and what is best for each student.

3. **Informed Parent Participation:** Describe the process and practices used to adequately inform parents of the eligibility requirements and implications of participation to ensure active parent participate in the IEP team discussion.

IEP meetings are held to determine the participation in the alternate assessment. The alternate assessment is described in detail and the IEP team discusses the qualifying criteria for participation. Parents are informed during the IEP team meeting that participation in the alternate assessment does not align to the state's general high school diploma criteria. The AAD is explained and the IEP team will make a decision based on this information. The parent and other relevant members are involved in the decision-making process.

4. **Support Requested:** Please detail any support needed from the department. (All reasonable requests for supports will be considered.)

Local training specific to the Alternate Assessment have been provides. All students currently participating in the alternate assessment meet all three criteria.

Assurance: The district is committed to ensuring all students are participating in the most appropriate assessments. Students determined eligible for the alternate assessment will meet the three criteria.

Signed: Nubri Sprunger Date: 2/16/23