

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: Millington Municipal Schools_____

	% 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	1.21%	1.38%	1.50%	1.27%	1.12%
MSAA Math	1.26%	1.39%	1.43%	1.30%	1.02%
TCAP- Alt Science	1.20%	<i>*Field test year, no data available</i>	1.32%	1.46%	1.50%

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.

Using the student's psychological evaluation as well as input from the parents, teachers, and student's current present levels of educational performance the IEP team decides if the student should be considered for alternate assessment.

- b. **Criterion Two:** The student is learning content linked to (derived from) state content standards. Students who participate in alternate assessment are being instructed on the state standards related to the alternate assessment. Standards based instruction is teaching that aligns with the state's content standards. Students are instructed on alternate academic achievement 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. If there are compelling indications that the student should receive instruction based on alternate standards and take alternate assessment, those factors must be documented in the IEP. If the body of evidence supports the existence of a significant cognitive disability, the student may receive instruction based on alternate academic achievement standards and will participate in alternate assessment.

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.

Based upon current data, MMSD participation in alternate assessment has decreased in ELA and Math, but slightly increased in Science. Whereas, in 2017-18 and 2020-21 the number of alternate assessment participation in Science decreased. We have over 55% of students with Autism participating in alternate assessment and more males than females who are African American. We will continue to monitor via IEP team meetings as well as IEP reviews the student's psychological evaluation, current academic performance, teacher and parent input to determine student assessment participation to select which assessment best fits each student's needs.

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. During IEP meetings, the IEP team including the school psychologist discusses with parents the eligibility requirements and implications of participation. Parents are provided from

the special education teacher information regarding the assessment criteria and the expectations regarding assessment.

4. **Support Requested:** Please detail any support needed from the department. (All reasonable requests for supports will be considered.) None at this present moment.

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: _____

Reneta Moss

Date: _____

2/14/2023