



Arizona Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Charter Holders, and Special Education Directors

FROM: Colette Chapman, Deputy Associate Superintendent
State Director of Special Education

Roberta Alley, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Assessment Section

DATE: November 18, 2008

SUBJECT: Alternate State Achievement Test (ASAT)

The Alternate State Achievement Test (ASAT) was developed to assess students with significant cognitive disabilities (SCD) who cannot be assessed using the TerraNova in 2nd and 9th grade. In a recent review of Arizona's Revised Statute § 15-741 (A)(3) and (5) it was determined that the ASAT is not an appropriate alternate for a normed referenced test (NRT) like the TerraNova. It was further determined that the Statute does not specify which students must be assessed with a State Achievement Test.

Students with SCD will not be assessed with the ASAT in 2nd and 9th grade. Attached is a letter from the Attorney General's Office providing clarification related to A.R.S § 15-741 (A)(3) and (5). If IEP teams require students with SCD to continue to be assessed beyond the 10th grade with a State assessment, the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards Alternate (AIMS A) is available.