To:                  Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator

From:**Bethany Spangenberg,** Director of Alternate Assessment

Date:                  November 20, 2023

**ALERT: Student Selector Application closes November 30, 2023**

The **Student Selector Application** in ADEConnect is open for selecting students for alternate assessments (MSAA and Alt ELPA) and will close **November 30, 2023.** The IEP (Individualized Education Program) team must determine eligibility for alternate assessment before the close of the Student Selector Application to allow for suitable instructional time before administration. The Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator (TC) selects the eligible students for MSAA (Multi State Alternate Assessment) ELA and Mathematics (Grades 3-8 and 11) and MSAA Science (Grades 5, 8 and 11). The Alternate Assessment Test Coordinator (TC) also selects the eligible students for Alt ELPA in grades K-12 in the Student Selector Application.

·       Students are identified by the District of Attendance (DOA). The District of Residence (DOR) must ensure records are updated to reflect attendance and special education program at the DOA. This will allow the DOA to select students in the application.

·       Although the District of Attendance (DOA) registers the students in the Student Selector Application, the TC (Test Coordinator) at the District of Residence (DOR) must communicate with the DOA to ensure that the student lists are correct.

·       **The No Response Options is not applied to MSAA.** Please review the MSAA training modules in February 2024 for the procedure to administer the test to students who are still working on observable communication.

·       Braille is available for assessing ELA Foundational reading standards (grades 3 and 4) only. Test Coordinator must identify any students in grades 3 and 4 who are learning foundational Braille.

·       **If a student is not on your list, the student records must be updated in AzEDS.** ADE (Arizona Department of Education) cannot manually add students to the Student Selector Application. Student records can be verified by reviewing the SPED72 report.

·       Instructions for accessing the application is on **page 7** of the [District Test Coordinator Handbook](https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2023/08/Alternate%20Assessments%20District%20Test%20Coordinator%20Handbook%202023-2024.pdf).

**NOTE: If you are having student records issues during this time, please contact us before November 30, 2023, so that we can track eligible students and upload them.**

To meet criteria for alternate assessments, the student must meet all participation criteria descriptors below.

1. The student has a significant cognitive disability.

2. The student is learning content linked to (derived from) state content standards.

3. The student requires extensive direct individualized instruction and substantial support to achieve measurable gains in the grade-and-age-appropriate curriculum.

[The Alternate Assessments Eligibility Form](https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2023/10/Alternate%20Assessment%20Participation%20Guidelines%20and%20Eligibility%20Determination%20August%202023.pdf) has been updated for the 2023-24 school year. The form is required for IEP meetings going forward. The eligibility criteria have not changed. IEP teams do not need to amend the IEP for students who were already determined eligible using the previous form.

We want to thank all our alternate assessment test coordinators and IEP teams for their efforts in following eligibility criteria to make assessment decisions for your students. If you have any questions, please contact us at the Alternate Assessment Inbox or 602-542-8239.