ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT ACCESSIBILITY

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WELCOME!

The presentation and recording will be posted to the website:

https://www.azed.gov/assessment/statewide-assessments-webinars

AI notetakers will not be admitted into the Friday Focus webinars.

Please enter your questions into the chat.

AGENDA

Accessibility for MSAA

Accessibility for Alt ELPA

Resources

ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

Annual IEP team determination

1. Does the student have a significant cognitive disability? What evidence supports this?
2. Is the student learning linked to grade level state content standards?
3. Does the student require extensive direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains in the grade-appropriate curriculum?

FLEXIBILITY

Many practices that are not allowed for achievement assessments and AZELLA may be allowed for alternate assessment.

- Breaks as needed
- Do not cover walls – use the resources the student knows how to use
- Any mode of communication (presentation and response)
- Redirection and verbal support

MSAA

Alternate assessments measure academic content that is aligned to and derived from the state's content standards.

MSAA is designed to assess students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

MSAA is administered in the areas of ELA and Mathematics in Grades 3-8 and 11 and Science in Grades 5, 8, and 11.

MSAA DESIGN

Reduced text complexity

Shortened passages and stimulus

Fewer answer options

Graphic support

Mode(s) of communication used by student

Scaffolding and reminder statements

MSAA TEST ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT

One on one administration for redirection/engagement, encouragement, time management, read aloud

Universal features: color themes, alternative text, answer masking, line reader, magnification, manipulatives, tactile graphics, object replacement, transcription

Accommodations: Assistive technology, paper-based testing, scribe, sign language, braille for foundational reading items in Grades 3 and 4

ALT ELPA (ALTERNATE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENT)

- Alternate assessment for AZELLA
- Based on Alternate English Language Proficiency Standards
- Determines English language proficiency based on language expectations for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities

ALT ELPA DESIGN

Reduced text complexity

Shortened passages and stimulus

Fewer answer options

Graphic support

Mode(s) of communication used by student

Revised definitions of reading, writing, speaking, and listening

Comparison group of students with significant cognitive disabilities who are not English learners

ALT ELPA TEST ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT

One on one administration for redirection/engagement, encouragement, time management, read aloud

Embedded universal features: expandable passages, highlighter, line reader, zoom/magnification, notepad, mark for review, strikethrough

Designated support: color choices, masking, mouse pointer, print size/zoom, streamline mode

Accommodations: Domain exemption, permissive mode, paper-based testing (print on demand), word prediction

Non-embedded features: breaks, tactile graphics, scratch paper, test navigation assistance

ACCOMMODATIONS REQUESTS

Must be documented in the IEP

Not submitted to ADE

Alternate Assessment District Test Coordinators are responsible for designating accommodations in the platform(s).

RESOURCES

Accessibility Guidelines for selecting, administering, and evaluating accommodations

Alternate Assessment Accessibility Manual

Alt ELPA Accessibility Manual

Look for an MSAA Accessibility Manual soon!

BEST PRACTICES FOR IDENTIFYING SUPPORTS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Use accessibility guidelines and manuals to identify options

Must be used in daily instruction

Document all universal features, supports, and accommodations in the IEP

Do not rely on online IEP system drop-downs for accommodations – they may not match what is allowed on each state assessment!

QUESTIONS? – CONTACT ALTERNATEASSESSMENT@AZED.GOV

