



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: District Administrators (DA) in TIDE, Special Education Directors

FROM: Janet Stuck, Performance Office
Deirdre Ducharme, Performance Office

DATE: October 15, 2020

SUBJECT: Annotated Alternate Assessment System Eligibility Form

This memo and the associated resource provides refined guidance to Connecticut's public school districts for the identification of appropriate students for participation in the Connecticut Alternate Assessment System. Connecticut's alternate assessments are designed exclusively for a small percentage of special education students with a disability or multiple disabilities that significantly impact intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior, requiring intensive instruction and substantial supports. Generally, one percent or less of the tested student population is expected to participate in alternate assessments and eligibility is determined by the student's Planning and Placement Team (PPT).

As described in previous guidance, members of the PPT ensure appropriate assessment selection for student participation using evidence explicitly documented throughout the student's Individual Education Program (IEP) in conjunction with the [Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form](#). The Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form documents required data, capturing the student's intellectual impairment, adaptive behavior, and the confirmation that the student receives extensive, repeated, individualized instruction, and academic support across all academic and non-academic areas. Several resources related to special populations and accessibility are available on the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program [Portal](#).

A new resource, the [Annotated Connecticut Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form](#), provides clarifying information for each section of the Alternate Assessment Eligibility Form based on monitoring results by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), data analysis of submitted forms, and stakeholder input. The Annotated Connecticut Alternate Eligibility Form and other resources specific to the Alternate Assessment System are available on the Connecticut Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal in the [Alternate Assessment System Card](#).

For questions please contact Janet Stuck at janet.stuck@ct.gov or Deirdre Ducharme at deirdre.ducharme@ct.gov.