



Opportunity Through Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2022–059

TO: School District Superintendents
Principals, K-12
Special Education Directors
Special Education Educators

FROM: Wanda Maloney, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: May 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Alternate Assessment Participation Guidance

ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT PARTICIPATION GUIDANCE

Title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), addresses students participating in alternate assessments aligned with alternate academic achievement standards (AA-AAAS) of the statewide assessment system. In Wyoming, the AA-AAAS are the Extended Standards. ESEA section 1111(b)(2)(D)(i)(I) limits the total number of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities assessed on the AA-AAAS to one percent, also known as the 1% Threshold.

In order to support districts in making the best decisions for their students, the Wyoming Department of Education provides guidance around the identification of students for whom it is most appropriate to receive instruction based on the [Wyoming Extended Standards](#) and assessed using the [WY-ALT](#) assessments. As district IEP teams are making decisions about the instruction and assessment of Wyoming students, they should consult the [Wyoming Alternate Assessment Participation Guidance](#) and the updated [guidance video](#) from the WDE Assessment Team.

For more information, contact Becca Velikaneye, Assessment Consultant, at 307-777-6804 or rebecca.velikaneye@wyo.gov.