

2023-2024 Policies and Procedures: Lafayette (Approved)

Section E: Participation in State and District Assessments

The school district administers districtwide assessments of academic student achievement.

- Yes
 No

History

If **yes**, include the name of each districtwide assessment and whether the assessment is administered to students on alternate academic achievement standards. If the districtwide assessment is not administered to students on alternate academic achievement standards, identify the corresponding alternate assessment. (If your school district uses a portfolio as a corresponding district alternate assessment, the data collected should be based on grade-level alternate academic achievement standards. For portfolios, indicate what information is being collected, how the information is being recorded, what type of scoring rubric is being used, and how the school district ensures that all teachers are collecting the same information and scoring the data the same way.)

History

Parental Consent Documentation

In accordance with s. 1003.5715, F.S., and Rule 6A-6.0331(10), F.A.C., the school district may not proceed with a student's instruction in access points and the administration of an alternate assessment without written and informed parental consent unless the school district documents reasonable efforts to obtain parental consent and the student's parent has failed to respond or the school district obtains approval through a due process hearing. The school district shall obtain written parental consent for the actions described above on the Parental Consent Form – Instruction in Access Points – Alternate Academic Achievement Standards (AP-AAAS) and Administration of the Statewide, Standardized Alternate Assessment, Form 313181 <https://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-14585>.

The school district certifies that it either obtains prior parental consent or due process approval for every student participating in the FAA program. If prior parental consent is not obtained, the school district certifies that it has documentation of reasonable efforts to obtain that approval and consent, or a final order from DOAH.

- Yes
 No

History

Percentage of Students on Alternate Assessment

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (which can be found at <https://www.ed.gov/essa>), limits the percentage of students that a state may assess with an AA-AAAS to no more than 1 percent of all assessed students in the grades assessed in a state for each subject.

While there is a limit on the percentage of students statewide who may participate in the AA-AAAS, there is no such limit among school districts; however, 34 C.F.R. § 200.6(c)(3)(ii) and (iv) require that a school district submit information justifying the need to assess more than one percent of its students in any subject with an AA-AAAS. The state must make that information publicly available, provided that such information does not reveal personally identifiable information about an individual student.

It is understood that school districts have unique circumstances that may contribute to a higher number of students who are in access courses and participating in the FAA program. The purpose of this justification is to ensure that school districts are cognizant of their current processes and procedures to ensure that an IEP team decision to place a student in access courses is in alignment with state requirements and is the most appropriate academic decision for the student.

What is your school district's 2022-23 participation percentage in the FAA in the following areas?

Reading

1.3

History

Mathematics

0.9

History

Science

1.9

History

Is the school district over one percent in any area?

- Yes
- No

History

The criteria for the following statement is outlined in s. 1008.22(3)(d), F.S., and Rule 6A-1.0943, F.A.C., and on the Checklist for Course and Assessment Participation, which can be found at <https://faa.fsassessments.org/-/media/project/client-portals/florida-alt/2023-2024-faa/manuals-and-guides/checklist-for-course-and-assessment-participation.pdf> for use in determining student eligibility for participation in the FAA program.

If the school district is over one percent in any area, please provide a description of how the school district is ensuring that IEP teams are adhering to the criteria (see above.)

The district is over the 1% goal in students with disabilities participating in the FSAA in reading (1.3%) and science (1.9%). Whenever considering Alternate Standards/Access Points, the team must review student performance, evaluation data, recent assessment, interventions of services on the Consideration for Access Points Instruction and Florida Alternate Assessment (FAA). The student must also meet criteria for Alternate Standards/Access Points instruction and assessment by meeting the requirements. The district is ensuring that IEP teams are adhering to the criteria first of all by providing general education and ESE teachers (at the elementary school) with Access Points training facilitated by the state discretionary projects: FDLRS, ISRD and Access. The district ESE Director and district staffing specialist have attended access points training. The ESE Director consults with the BEESS intellectual disability instructional Support Services specialist to review Lafayette's FSAA participation data annually. The staffing specialist educates IEP teams with criteria by utilizing the access points guideline forms for each student that may qualify for access points, when making decisions for students' educational needs to ensure that appropriate decisions are made on the team.

History

Provide a justification, with supporting evidence, that identifies specific programs or circumstances within the school district that may contribute to higher enrollment of students in access courses that exceeds one percent (e.g., center schools serving surrounding school districts).

Students will participate in assessment through the FAA if the student has a significant cognitive disability and even with appropriate and allowable instructional accommodations, assistive technology or accessible instructional materials the student requires modifications to the grade-level general state content standards. Since the state's initiative to ensure only qualified individuals were participating in access courses and taking the FAA, Lafayette County district's data is more accurate and closer to the 1% goal. The IEP team has high expectations for all students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Members of the IEP team understand and implement the state guidelines concerning testing of students with the highest cognitive disabilities. The district currently has 9 students participating in the FAA reading (1.3%), 6 students participating in math (0.9%) and 5 students participating in science (1.9%). Being a Title 1A district in a small and rural county, contributes to Lafayette School district participation rate in access courses being somewhat above the state's participation rate. Lafayette County has many deficits in the availability of health care providers and resources. There are no primary care services at the Lafayette County Health Department (LCHD), and no primary care services available in the county on a sliding fee scale that begins at zero pay. LCHD is the only obstetric provider in the county. With the limited number LCHD staff, emergency response capabilities are restricted. Along with a lack of medical specialty providers, the absence of a hospital in the county, and a high rate of citizens without health insurance, there has been an increase in resident apathy concerning personal health. Lafayette County School District is considering these statistics as possible contributors to the number of students enrolled with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

History

What is your school district's risk ratio for disproportionality in each content area for each subgroup?

ELA American Indian or Alaskan Native

0

History

ELA Black, non-Hispanic

| 0

[History](#)

ELA Hispanic

| 1.012464046

[History](#)

ELA Asian or Pacific Islander

| 0

[History](#)

ELA White, non-Hispanic

| 1.719162996

[History](#)

ELA Economically Disadvantaged

| 0.881612091

[History](#)

ELA English Language Learner

| 0

[History](#)

Math American Indian or Alaskan Native

| 0

[History](#)

Math Black, non-Hispanic

| 2.634042553

[History](#)

Math Hispanic

| 1.796551724

[History](#)

Math Asian or Pacific Islander

| 0

[History](#)

Math White, non-Hispanic

| 0.493273543

[History](#)

Math Economically Disadvantaged

| 0.362694301

[History](#)

Math English Language Learner

| 0

History

Science American Indian or Alaskan Native

| 0

History

Science Black, non-Hispanic

| 0

History

Science Hispanic

| 0

History

Science Asian or Pacific Islander

| 0

History

Science White, non-Hispanic

| 0

History

Science Economically Disadvantaged

| 1.204081633

History

Science English Language Learner

| 0

History

Social Studies American Indian or Alaskan Native

| 0

History

Social Studies Black, non-Hispanic

| 0

History

Social Studies Hispanic

| 0

History

Social Studies Asian or Pacific Islander

| 0

History

Social Studies White, non-Hispanic

| 0

History

Social Studies Economically Disadvantaged

| 0

History

Social Studies English Language Learner

| 0

History

If an identified risk ratio is 3 or above in any area, describe the school district's plan to address this disproportionality. This could include examining practices, such as the training and technical assistance provided to personnel on culturally responsive practices; working within a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) to promote best practices in screening; progress monitoring; and initial eligibility determination. School districts may also refer to their efforts to decrease disproportionality in evaluation, identification and discipline if similar efforts are made in that area.

| N/A No identified risk ratio at a 3 or above.

History

Rule 6A-1.0943, F.A.C., Statewide Assessment for Students with Disabilities

District-Specific Procedures

These are the criteria required for participation in the statewide, standardized alternate assessment as per Rule 6A-1.0943(5), F.A.C.:

Section A: The decision that a student with a significant cognitive disability will participate in the statewide, standardized alternate assessment as defined in Rule 6A-1.0943(5)(a), F.A.C., must be made by the IEP team and recorded on the IEP.

If the definition of "most significant cognitive disability" is not met according to the criteria set in Rule 6A-1.0943(1)(f)1., F.A.C., then complete Section E of this document, which satisfies Rule 6A-1.0943(1)(f)2., F.A.C.

Section B: The provisions regarding parental consent for participation in the statewide, standardized alternate assessment found in Rule 6A-6.0331(10), F.A.C., must be followed.

Section C: In order for a student to participate in the statewide, standardized alternate assessment, all of the following criteria must be met:

1. The student must receive exceptional student education (ESE) services as identified through a current IEP and be enrolled in the appropriate and aligned courses using alternate achievement standards for two consecutive full-time equivalent reporting periods prior to the assessment;

Evidence of criteria will be provided through the student's current IEP and student schedule.

2. The student must be receiving specially designed instruction, which provides unique instruction and intervention support that is determined, designed and delivered through a team approach, ensuring access to core instruction through the adaptation of content, methodology or delivery of instruction and exhibits very limited to no progress in the general education curriculum standards;

Evidence of criteria will be provided through MTSS or response-to-intervention (Rtl) documentation.

3. The student must be receiving support through systematic, explicit and interactive small-group instruction focused on foundational skills in addition to instruction in the general education curriculum standards;

Evidence of criteria will be provided through MTSS or Rtl documentation.

4. Even after documented evidence of exhausting all appropriate and allowable instructional accommodations, the student requires modifications to the general education curriculum standards;

Evidence of criteria will be provided with _____ (the required IEP and school district documentation of services provided—accommodation logs, accommodation logs compared to classroom performance).

5. Even after documented evidence of accessing a variety of supplementary instructional materials, the student requires modifications to the general education curriculum standards;

Evidence of criteria will be provided with _____ (the required IEP and school district documentation of the provision of supplementary instructional materials—may be a summary from teacher, speech-language pathologist (SLP) or other service providers).

6. Even with documented evidence of the provision and use of assistive technology, the student requires modifications to the general education curriculum standards;

Evidence of criteria will be provided with _____ (the required IEP and school district documentation of the provision assistive technology services provided).

7. Even with direct instruction in all core academic areas (i.e., ELA, mathematics, social studies and science), the student is exhibiting limited or no progress on the general education curriculum standards, and requires modifications;

Evidence of criteria will be provided with _____ (the required IEP and school district documentation of the provision of supplementary instructional materials—may be a summary from teacher, SLP or other service providers).

8. Unless the student is a transfer student, the student must have been available and present for grade-level general education curriculum standards instruction for at least 70 percent of the school year prior to the assessment;

Evidence of criteria will be provided through the student's attendance report.

9. Unless the student is a transfer student, the student must have been instructed by a certified teacher for at least 80 percent of the school year prior to the assessment; and

Evidence of criteria will be provided through the teacher's certificate and teacher's attendance record.

10. The assessment instrument used to measure the student's global level of cognitive functioning was selected to limit the adverse impact of already-identified limitations and impairments (e.g., language acquisition, mode of communication, culture, hearing, vision, orthopedic functioning, hypersensitivities and distractibility).

Evidence of criteria will be provided through available evaluations, medical reports or screeners provided in the past.

11. The student has a most significant cognitive disability.

Section D: A student is not eligible to participate in the statewide, standardized alternate assessment if any of the following apply:

1. The student is identified as a student with a specific learning disability or as gifted;

Evidence of criteria will be provided through IEP and applicable evaluation results.

2. The student is identified only as a student eligible for services as a student who is deaf or hard of hearing or has a visual impairment, a dual sensory impairment, an emotional or behavioral disability, a language impairment, a speech impairment, or an orthopedic impairment; or

Evidence of criteria will be provided through IEP and applicable data.

3. The student scored a level 2 or above on a previous statewide, general education curriculum standardized assessment administered pursuant to Section 1008.22(3)(e), F.S., unless there is medical documentation that the student experienced a traumatic brain injury or other health-related complications subsequent to the administration of that assessment that led to the student having the most significantly below-average global cognitive impairment.

Evidence of criteria will be provided through statewide standard assessment results, if applicable.

Section E: In the extraordinary circumstance when a global, full-scale intelligent quotient score is unattainable, a school district will comply as follows:

More specifically, in the event when a student cannot be directly assessed, the student who has a suspected most significant cognitive disability for whom assessment via the FAA may be appropriate as defined in Rule 6A-1.0943(1)(f)1., F.A.C., will be identified through the following detailed procedure:

List the factors the school district will use to determine that a direct assessment of cognitive functioning is not achievable.

The school psychologist will observe the student and/or interview the teacher in order to select the most appropriate test for the student's measured ability. The district will attempt two (2) separate individually administered measures of global cognitive functioning with students suspected of having a significant cognitive disability. Factors the district will use to determine that a direct assessment of cognitive functioning is not achievable are: (1) if the student is unable to respond with purposeful and intentional responses, or (2) if the student is unable to understand the presented tasks, or (3) if a valid basal is not obtained on the measure of global cognitive ability. The school psychologist will document sensory, language, motor or behavioral deficits which impact the ability to complete the assessment.

History

Describe the assessment process the school district will use to determine if a student has a most significant cognitive disability in the absence of reliable direct assessment of cognitive functioning.

When an individually administered measure of global cognitive functioning is unattainable, the evaluator(s) will be asked to obtain additional assessments to include a developmental assessment, a measure of adaptive behavior. Observations of the student during attempted direct assessment and any previous assessment information will be considered. Observations and input from other professionals (i.e. Speech and Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Special Education Teachers) who have attempted to directly assess the skills of the student will be considered as well. All scores and information that impact global functioning will be documented on the *Consideration for Access Points Instruction and Statewide, Standardized Alternate Assessment* form.

History

Describe how the school district will train and monitor staff with compliance of the determination and assessment process.

The school district will provide training to all school psychologists and staffing specialists on the procedures for determining a student has a most significant cognitive disability when cognitive function cannot be directly assessed. The District ESE staff will monitor compliance through review of the applicable information and participate in initial staffing and/or IEP meetings for review and completion of the *Consideration for Access Points Instruction and Statewide, Standardized Alternate Assessment* form, the student's IEP, and the annual FSAA Assurances Self-Assessment.

[History](#)