

Start with the End in Mind

The state's alternate assessment, based on alternate academic achievement standards, is meant for a very small number of children with significant cognitive disabilities. Although life after school seems a long time away, taking the alternate assessment instead of the general state test can affect your child's future.



Graduation



Further Education
and Training



Military Service



Employment

Five things to consider when making state test decisions:

1. Disability

Only children with the most significant cognitive disabilities can take the alternate state assessment.

2. Yearly

Every year the IEP team should make the decision about which test your child will take.

3. Guidelines

IEP team members use the state's participation guidelines to decide whether your child should take the state alternate assessment or the state general assessment.

4. Agreement

Everyone on the IEP team should agree that your child meets each of the state's participation criteria for taking the alternate assessment.

5. Instruction

All children are taught academic content for their enrolled grade level. Students who take the alternate assessment may need content presented in reduced depth, breadth, or complexity.

For more information talk to your child's teacher or visit your state's alternate assessment website.

