



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

October 21, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: One Percent (1%) Threshold on Alternate Assessments

The *Every Students Succeeds Act* (ESSA) requires states to ensure that the total number of students assessed in each subject using an alternate assessment (for a student with a significant cognitive disability) does not exceed one percent (1%) of the total number of students in the state assessed with statewide assessments. In Alabama, *the definition of a student with the most significant cognitive disability is a student with an intelligence quotient (IQ) of three standard deviations below the mean which is an IQ score of 55 or below that significantly impacts intellectual functioning and that exists concurrently with deficits in adaptive functioning (defined as essential for someone to live independently and to function safely in daily life).* [AAC 290-4-2-.03]

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) has compiled projected district data from enrollment of students who will participate in the 2020-2021 *Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program (ACAP) Alternate Assessment*. The ALSDE will notify the superintendent of each district that has exceeded the one percent (1%) projected participation no later than October 30, 2020. The ALSDE will make available information about required training and requirements for the upcoming year.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Maggie Hicks, Student Assessment, at 334-694-4817 or by email at mhicks@alsde.edu.

EGM/MH

cc: City and County System Test Coordinators
City and County Special Education Coordinators
Dr. Daniel Boyd
Mrs. Angela Martin

FY21-2019

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