

What You Should Know About the Smarter Balanced Assessment and Students with Disabilities



You have a right to...

Choose "designated supports" for any child that might need that support on the assessment. Parents can also ask for a designated support. Students do not need a 504 or IEP for universal tools and designated supports.

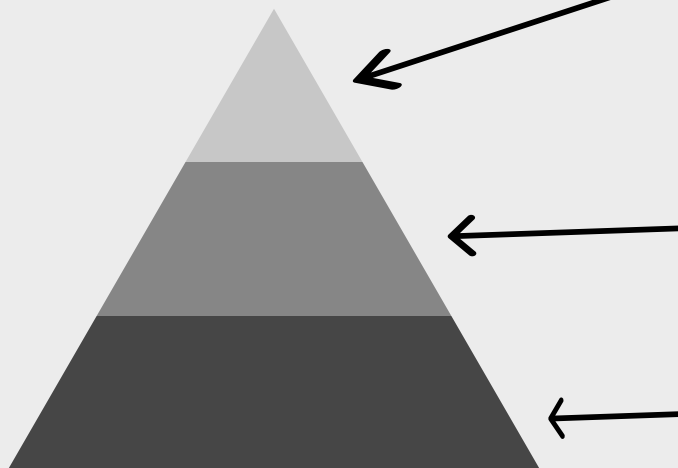
Make a decision on an IEP that best suits the child's needs. This means that if the IEP team decides the alternate assessment is the best option for that child, the district cannot make you change that later if they are concerned about the high numbers of students taking the alternate assessment.

The Smarter Balanced assessment uses the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) within the assessment. UDL is key in the design of SBAC because this means that ANY approved supports used by students on the Smarter Balanced assessment WILL NOT change the construct for students.

This has eliminated the need for an alternate assessment for the majority of students with IEPs in California.

Additionally, accommodations and universal supports are available to all students based on varying factors and degrees, including but not limited to teacher/parent decision, IEP team decisions, and in the case of the universal supports, access for all students.

Supports for Students with Disabilities on the SBAC



Accommodations (A) must be permitted on CAASPP tests to all eligible students if specified in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan.

Designated supports are available to all students when determined for use by an educator or team of educators (with parent/guardian and student input, as appropriate) or specified in the student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan.

Universal tools (U) are available to all students on the basis of student preference and selection

UDAs can be EMBEDDED or NON-EMBEDDED. The use of UDAs DOES NOT invalidate test scores or change the nature of the assessment.

Is there a 1% cap on how many students in a district can take the alternate assessment?

1%

NO.

There is a statewide cap only. Starting next year, LEAs will be required to notify the state that they are above the 1% CAP before they finish their testing. This advance notice allows the state educational agency to ask for a federal waiver if they anticipate going over the 1% cap.

The Bottom Line:

The IEP team makes the decision on what is most suitable for each child. Statewide caps do not affect IEP team decisions.

If you are asked to change an IEP based on this cap, notify your site rep and share this memo with them. You can also find more information at:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ai/caasppmatrix1.asp>

Want to Know More?

Where do I find information on the SBAC supports?

The Matrix One is the California State Board of Education approved accessibility resources document for CAASPP testing. The Matrix One should be used in conjunction with the Smarter Balanced Usability, Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines, a reference to obtain details on the recommended use of each of the resources.

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ai/caasppmatrix1.asp>

How do I make a request for a support?

Should the student require an accessible resource that is not listed on Matrix One, use the unlisted resources request form in the Test Operations Management System and view the Requesting an Unlisted Resource Tutorial on how to make a request.

Tutorial Link: http://www.caaspp.org/rsc/videos/archived-training_requesting-unlisted-resource.2017.html

TOMS Link: http://www.caaspp.org/rsc/videos/archived-training_requesting-unlisted-resource.2017.html

What if my students begins a test without the required accessibility resources?

The test administrator should inform the test site coordinator to complete a Security and Test Administration Incident Reporting System (STAIRS) report. Then, the test site coordinator may file an appeal to reset the test. When approved, the test site coordinator needs to enter the appropriate resources. STAIRS report Link: <http://www.caaspp.org/rsc/pdfs/CAASPP.stairs-appeals-guide.2016-17.pdf>

Are there video tutorials I can watch to learn more?

Video tutorials are available to preview the embedded designated supports and accommodations and can be found at the Embedded Universal Tools, Designated Supports, and Accommodations Video Tutorials Web page.

For other accessibility resources, please visit CAASPP Student Accessibility Resources and Test Settings Web page and CDE 2016-17 CA Student Assessment Accessibility Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/accesssupportitems.asp>.