

2017-18 Alternate Assessment Justification

The following must be completed by districts contributing to the state exceeding the 1% cap for students participating in the alternate assessment. Please return the completed form to Leslie.M.Hoffman@tn.gov by Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2019, by 5 p.m. CT.

District Name: Lauderdale County Schools

	% of Alternative Assessments: 2016-2017 Administration	Current % of Alternate Assessments: 2017-2018 Administration	Projected % of Alternate Assessments: 2018-2019 Administration
MSAA ELA	2.18%	2.05%	1.60
MSAA Math	2.24%	2.06%	1.60

- Percentage Goal:** What is your goal in addressing decision making for identifying the right students for the alternate assessment? *Lauderdale County's goal is to carefully consider all needs of students to make the most appropriate decisions regarding eligibility for alternate assessment. For example, our goal is to consider strengths and weaknesses in cognitive abilities, adaptive skills, and academic skills. Eligibility decisions will be reviewed and made by the IEP team annually.*
- Process:** Describe the process, training, and steps the district will use to meet the percentage goal reduction proposed above. *The following actions will be taken to address student participation in the State's Alternate Assessment:*
 - Review files of all students who are currently eligible for the Alternate Assessment.*
 - Collaborate with school personnel to determine students' current supports, services, and academic abilities.*
 - Retrain school personnel on the Eligibility for Alternate Assessment Participation Checklist to assist with eligibility decisions.*
 - Carefully consider all cognitive and adaptive scores, such as Composite and Domain scores, rather than considering only overall scores to identify those students who exhibit the most significant cognitive and adaptive deficits.*

- *Carefully consider IEP goals and services to identify those students who have short-term objectives, significantly different curriculum activities, and explicit instruction in functional and daily living skills.*

3. **Disproportionality:** Explain how the school district is addressing any disproportionality identified in areas that include, but are not limited to: student's IEP disability, number of students with disability, grade bands (elementary, middle, high school). *Lauderdale County is addressing "disproportionately disciplining students with disabilities" through continued implementation and revision of RTI2-B plans in all schools, as well as implementation and revision of individual behavior plans when needed. A file review of all students with disabilities with office discipline referrals will be completed and goal revisions will be made as necessary.*
4. **Parent Participation:** How do parents participate in, or how are they notified of, the IEP decision for their student to participate in the alternate assessment(s)? *Parents are notified to participate in the IEP meeting. The Eligibility for alternate assessment Participant Checklist is reviewed by the team and signed by the parent, if the parent is in attendance. Documentation of this decision is provided in the Prior Written Notice.*
5. **Support Requested:** Please detail any support needed from the department. (All feasible requests for supports will be considered.) *Lauderdale County is not requesting any support at this time.*