# USEAM

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# Accommodations and Assessments

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## 2011-2012 Accommodations Changes

- The Accommodation Policy has been updated and is available at http://www.schools.utah.gov/sars/DOCS/assessment/Special_Needs_Accommodations_Policy-pdf.aspx..

September 15, 2011

## All Students **Must** Be Included

- Assessments without accommodations
- Assessments with accommodations
  - Students with disabilities (SWD)
  - English language learners (ELL)
  - Students on Section 504 plans
- Utah's Alternate Assessment (UAA) for students with significant cognitive disabilities
- The IEP team cannot exempt a student from the state-wide testing requirements.

September 15, 2011

# Required Assessments

- All students must be assessed on either the CRTs or UAA, even students taking courses that begin with a course code number of 23.
- All students must take Algebra 1 CRT by the end of 10th grade or the UAA .



# LEA Assessments

- The LEA must provide an alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities for any LEA assessment that is required of all students.
- Does your LEA require a kindergarten assessment for all students? You must provide an alternate assessment.

# Accommodations for ELL

- The UALPA should be administered to all ELL students.
- The IEP team may not exempt a student from entire UALPA; IEP team can determine that a partial administration is appropriate.
- Any student can reach "frustration level."
- A student requiring UALPA in braille must be proficient enough in braille to make it a reasonable assessment.



# Accommodations

- Research indicates that more is not necessarily better, and that providing students with accommodations that are not truly needed may have a negative impact on performance. The most appropriate approach to accommodations is to focus on a student's identified needs within the general education curriculum.

# Accommodations for Directions

- State-wide assessment general instructions may be clarified, paraphrased and/or re-read for all students.



# Read Aloud Accommodation

- All passages, questions and answer options may be read aloud to Students with Disabilities (SWD), English Language Learners (ELL) and Students on Section 504 plans except the answer options for spelling items which must be spelled letter by letter.

# Assessment - Screen Reader

- The screen reader should be used to provide the read aloud on all CRTs. If a student is unable to interact with the screen reader, appropriate documentation must be included in the IEP, ELL plan or 504 plan.
- Students using the screen reader with headsets may be assessed with their peers. They may no longer need to be assessed individually or in a small group.
- Screen reader will continue to be available on medium and fast speed.

September 15, 2011

# Instruction - Screen Reader

- Many students in LEAs using of commercial electronic read aloud features such as Texthelp, Kurzweil, WYNN and Don Johnston to read digital information or electronic books found the screen reader easy to use.
- It is an LEA responsibility to provide instructional read aloud in all subjects necessary including all books, documents, and the web if the team determines that is what the student needs.

September 15, 2011

# Braille and Large Print

- Student responses for braille and large print must be submitted via the CBT system if the school is administering that assessment via computer.
- Reading Grades 1-3 Benchmark:
  - All print versions of this assessment are produced by each LEA.
  - Braille versions of this assessment are provided by the USOE.



# Reading assessments

- All students in grades 1, 2 and 3 must take the DIBELS Next Middle of Year (MOY) DIBELS Oral Reading Fluency (DORF) Benchmark Assessments including students who take the UAA.
- All students in grade 3 must take the USOE-approved end-of-year assessment including students who take the UAA.

  (Alternate assessments are available)

# NAEP

- Schools and students within the school are randomly selected to participate in NAEP.
- Students who participate in the CRTs should not be exempted from the NAEP.
- NAEP passages, questions, and answer options may be read aloud except the NAEP Reading Assessment.



# Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM)

- Essential Elements

- Pilot item testing 2012-2014
- Pilot test 2014-15
- Operational test 2015-16

# Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM)

- We will need the help of teachers who teach students with significant cognitive disabilities.
  - What features they want in a test
  - What features they want in reports for formative and interim tests
  - Survey



# Future

- No one knows for sure!
- What about the possibility of tests using refreshable braille, braillers and portable tactile graphic printers?
- What about the possibility of embedded avatars or videos of humans signing items?
- How will a human read aloud a computer adaptive assessment?

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