

Alternate Assessments:

Ensuring Access for All

Alternate assessments are specifically designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, whose disability impacts both intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior. These assessments allow students with the most significant cognitive disabilities to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in their grade-level content.

Participation

To participate in alternate assessments, students must meet specific criteria. This decision is made by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team, which determines the best way for the student to demonstrate progress. The decision aligns with instructional support through Utah's Alternate Achievement Standards, known as the Essential Elements, for assessing students with significant cognitive disabilities.

The Essential Elements

The Essential Elements are specific statements of knowledge and skills linked to the grade-level expectations in the core standards for:

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science

Resources

Some resources provided on the Padlet include:

- Alternate Assessment Participation Guidelines
- Defining Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities
- List of Utah's Alternate Assessments
- Materials for Each Alternate Assessment



Access the Padlet by scanning the QR code or visit:
tinyurl.com/4vsnwrb



For more information visit:
schools.utah.gov/assessment