

LEAP Alternate Assessment Level 2, (LAA 2) Participation Criteria

Guidance for the Participation Requirements for LAA 2

LEAP Alternate Assessment, Level 2 (LAA 2) is based on modified academic achievement standards. This assessment allows students with persistent academic difficulties who are served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) to participate in academic assessments that are sensitive to measuring progress in their learning. These are students whose disability has prevented them from attaining grade-level proficiency. The students must have access to a curriculum based on grade-level content standards, and must be assessed with a measure that also is based on grade-level content standards. The IEP Team makes the decision as to whether the student will participate in LAA 2 based on the LAA 2 Participation Criteria. If the student is on the non-diploma pathway and is working toward earning a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or a State-approved Skills Certificate (SASC) and is eligible for LAA 2, then the student will participate in the Academic Skills Assessment (ASA) LAA 2.

IEP team members must use multiple sources of information to guide decision-making for statewide assessment purposes. The IEP team must review evidence that includes current IEP goals and/or objectives as well as results from statewide assessments (LEAP, iLEAP, GEE, LAA 2 and LAA 1); and recent results from other tests to document significant academic difficulties; class performance records; and/or growth rates compared to grade level national or local norms, including proficiency levels from prior years.

There must be documentation on the IEP that the student has significant academic difficulties, at least in English language arts, reading and/or mathematics based on class performance records and local and state assessments.

The student scored at the *Unsatisfactory* level in English language arts and/or mathematics on the previous year's LEAP/iLEAP/GEE or scored *Needs Improvement* on the English II or English III and/or Algebra 1 or Geometry EOC or participated in LAA 1 or LAA 2.



The student scored *unsatisfactory* on the regular assessment or in English language arts and/or mathematics the previous year or *Needs Improvement* on the English II or English III and/or Algebra 1 or Geometry EOC or previously participated in LAA 1 or LAA 2. Students are eligible to participate in LAA 2 starting in the 4th grade.

The student has an IEP with goals based on academic content standards for the student's enrolled grade and the student requires supports to access the general education curriculum.



The student has academic goals based on the content standards/GLEs for the student's enrolled grade. At a minimum, a student's IEP must have goals in ELA and/or mathematics if the student is participating in LAA 2 in either content area. The student requires supports to access the general education curriculum and may require accommodations during classroom instruction and tests.

The student's progress to date, in response to appropriate instruction designed to address the student's individual needs is such that, even if significant growth occurs, the student will not achieve grade-level proficiency within the year covered by the student's IEP.



The student, even with direct, intensive, individualized instruction as indicated by the student's IEP, is unable to demonstrate competence of grade-level skill within the year through the monitoring of the student's progress in achieving those goals.

The decision to include the student in LAA 2 is not solely based on the *student safeguards* under Criterion 4 on the form.



The student has to have significant academic difficulties to be eligible to participate in LAA 2. The safeguards cannot be the basis on which the student is determined eligible to participate in LAA2. The placement of a student in LAA 2 shall not be an administrative decision to bypass the high stakes testing policy.

A student is eligible to take parts of the LAA 2 assessment and the regular assessment (LEAP or GEE) The content areas for which the student will be taking LAA 2 must be identified on the student's IEP. If a student is in grade 5, 6, 7, and is participating in LAA 2, the student is only required to take ELA and Math, but can take Science and Social Studies as determined by the IEP team.



The student must take all content areas assigned for grades 4 and 8 and the content areas assigned to the specific grade for grades 10-11. If the student scored *Approaching Basic* or higher in a content area, the IEP team may decide that student can take parts of both LAA 2 and the regular assessment (LEAP, iLEAP, or GEE).

LEAP ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT, LEVEL 2 (LAA 2) PARTICIPATION CRITERIA for Grades 4-11

Student _____ DOB _____ State ID# _____ Grade Enrolled _____
 School _____ District _____ Date* _____

This LEAP Alternate Assessment, Level 2 (LAA 2) policy, based on modified academic achievement standards, allows students with persistent academic difficulties who are served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) to participate in academic assessments that are sensitive to measuring progress in their learning. There must be evidence from multiple sources that indicate the student is having **significant academic difficulties**, at least in English language arts, reading and/or mathematics. The Local Education Agency (LEA) is required to provide the student with LEAP remediation and accommodations to ensure the student makes progress towards meeting his or her IEP goals and/or objectives related to the general education curriculum. The IEP team may also decide for the student is to participate in one or more content areas in the regular assessment (LEAP or GEE). If the student is on the non-diploma pathway and is working toward earning a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) or a State-approved Skills Certificate (SASC) and is eligible for LAA 2, then the student will participate in the Academic Skills Assessment (ASA) LAA 2.

CIRCLE "AGREE" OR "DISAGREE" FOR EACH STATEMENT. Evidence supporting Criteria 1, 2 and 3 must be addressed in the student's IEP folder.

Criterion #1 – Evidence that the student's disability has precluded the student from achieving grade level proficiency.

Agree **Disagree** The student scored at the *Unsatisfactory* level in English language arts and/or mathematics on the previous year's LEAP/iLEAP/GEE or scored Needs Improvement on the English II or English III and/or Algebra 1 or Geometry EOC or participated in LAA 1 or LAA 2.

Criterion #2 – Evidence from multiple sources that the student's IEP is based on the academic content standards and the student requires support to access the general education curriculum.

Agree **Disagree** The student has an IEP with goals based on academic content standards for the student's enrolled grade and the student requires support to access the general education curriculum.

Criterion #3 – Evidence from multiple sources that the student will not achieve grade level proficiency within the IEP year.

Agree **Disagree** The student's progress to date, in response to appropriate instruction designed to address the student's individual needs is such that, even if significant growth occurs, the student will not achieve grade-level proficiency within the year covered by the student's IEP.

Criterion #4 – Student Safeguards

Agree **Disagree** The decision to include the student in LAA 2 is not **solely** based on the following:

1. the student's placement
2. excessive or extended absences
3. disruptive behavior
4. English language proficiency
5. the student's reading level
6. the student's disability according to Bulletin 1508
7. social, cultural, and/or economic differences
8. anticipated impact on school performance scores
9. administrative decision
10. the expectation that the student will not perform well on the regular assessment (LEAP/iLEAP/GEE)

To be eligible to participate in LAA 2, the response to each of the four statements above must have been "Agree."

A student is eligible to take parts of the LAA 2 assessment and the regular assessments (LEAP or GEE). The content areas for which the student will be taking LAA 2 must be identified on the student's IEP. If a student is in grade 5, 6, or 7, and is participating in LAA 2, the student is only required to take ELA and Math. The content areas in which the student will be taking LAA 2 must be identified on the student's IEP.

ELA Mathematics Science Social Studies

Parental Understanding: If my child is eligible for and participates in LAA 2, my initials indicate I understand the statements below

- _____ I am aware that testing in LAA 2 means my child (I) is (am) having significant academic difficulties in reading, language arts and/or mathematics. It is an IEP team decision, based on the needs of my child (my needs), for my child (me) to participate in LAA 2.
- _____ I am aware that my child (I) can participate in LAA 2 in one or more content areas and at the same time participate in the regular statewide assessment (LEAP, iLEAP or GEE) for the remaining content areas required at my child's (my) enrolled grade.
- _____ I am aware that if my child participates in LAA 2 and by meets all graduation requirements, my child (I) will receive a High School Diploma. However, if during my child's (my) exit year all graduation requirements have not been met, then my child (I) may be eligible to exit high school with a Certificate of Achievement. I understand that this certificate limits my child's (my) choices of post-secondary education and careers, including military services. The implications of participating in LAA 2 have been explained to me and will be reviewed annually.
- _____ My child is working toward a GED or State-approved Skills Certificate, meets LAA 2 eligibility therefore will be participating in the ASA LAA 2 instead of the regular LEAP program.

IEP Team Decision: This form shall be attached to the student's current IEP. This form must be completed annually. The assessment decision must be documented on the student's IEP.

_____ is **eligible** for participation in LEAP Alternate Assessment, Level 2 and **will participate** in LAA 2.
 (Student's name)

_____ is **eligible** for participation in LEAP Alternate Assessment, Level 2 but **will not participate** in LAA 2.
 (Student's name)

_____ is **not eligible** to participate in LEAP Alternate Assessment, Level 2.
 (Student's name)

_____ is **eligible** for and will participate in the Academic Skills Assessment LAA 2 (ASA LAA2)
 (Student's name)

Parent/Student Signature* _____ District/School Representative Signature* _____

*Signature and date are required. Copies must be included with the IEP and be provided to teacher(s), parent, and central office