

1 PERCENT THRESHOLD ON ALTERNATE ASSESSMENTS

FOR STUDENTS WITH SIGNIFICANT COGNITIVE DISABILITIES



Local educational agencies (LEAs) that expect to test more than 1 percent of their students using the California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) must notify the California Department of Education (CDE) and provide the justification for surpassing that threshold.

There are many factors that can lead individualized education program (IEP) teams to identify a student to take an alternate assessment, and there are other circumstances that can lead to a large number of these students attending an LEA.

WHAT IS THE 1 PERCENT THRESHOLD?

The 1 percent threshold is designed to help address concerns about disproportionality related to potentially over-identifying students who take alternate assessments. Federal regulations require states to collect this information from their LEAs.

HOW IS THE 1 PERCENT THRESHOLD CALCULATED?

Statewide, the total number of students registered to take an alternate assessment is divided by the total number of students registered to take a standardized assessment in any curriculum area assessed.

HOW DO LEAS SUBMIT THE 1 PERCENT THRESHOLD JUSTIFICATION FORM?

The 1 Percent Threshold Justification form can be found on the 1 Percent Threshold on Alternate Assessments Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caaonepercent.asp>.

WHICH STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE THE ALTERNATE ASSESSMENTS?

The CAAs are designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who have been identified for alternate assessment by their IEP team.

The CDE provides guidance to IEP teams to appropriately identify students for alternate assessments; that guidance can be found at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caaiepteamrev.asp>.

