

JUSTIFICATION SUPPORT WORKSHEET THAT SUPPORTS THE 1% THRESHOLD ON ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT PARTICIPATION

All districts are required to submit information to the Nebraska Department of Education that provides support on identification of students who participate in the administration of the Alternate Assessment for the current year. This information supports the requirements of ESSA, that the Nebraska Department of Education must follow in meeting the 1% Threshold on alternate assessment participation.

COMPLETING the JUSTIFICATION SUPPORT WORKSHEET

Complete the Justification Support Worksheet along with any other forms included in this email and submit it to _____ by _____.

REMEMBER!!! If submission is late and/or incomplete it will affect your Timely, Accurate and Complete Data Submission for your district's special education determination.

- **Complete District Name and person completing the worksheet.**
- **Complete the number of students projected to participate on the alternate assessment for the coming school year.**
 - Provide the number of students by disability and if also an EL student.
 - (Remember to include only students in grades 3 – 8 and high school - 3rd year cohort)
 - If you do not have any students, put a zero in the chart.
- **Provide information that supports any student who is identified in the categories of 3 – 12.**
 - **How** did the student qualify? What information did you use to make the determination? **How did you determine the student has a most significant cognitive disability?**
 - **Do not** just state because they met the criteria.
 - **Do not** include any student identifiers in submission.
 - (**Examples of reasons why:** medical diagnosis, academic/intellectual functioning - explain, adaptive behavior scores, modifications needed, deficits in communication skills and/or social skills, IQ scores, any other information besides which is required on the Alternate Assessment Criteria).
- **Check the boxes to provide assurances that you are following the required NDE Guidance on Identification of Students. (ESSA requirement)**
 - Alternate Assessment Guiding Questions
 - Alternate Assessment Eligibility Worksheet
 - Most Significant Cognitive Disability Definition
- **Trainings for ALL Staff. (ESSA requirement)**
 - Test administrators have completed the required training for **administering** the assessment. **AND**
 - Training of all staff who participate as a member of the IEP team and/or placement team has been provided on the NDE Guidance on Identification of students who may qualify for participation on the alternate assessment.
- **Student's participation is based on meeting the criteria.**
 - How did the student meet the criteria? Assure that students were not placed solely on the assessment due to any of the 14 areas listed in the last assurance.

Refer any questions or concerns to: