



Title I (34 CFR §200.6(c)(3)(ii))

Accessing the Alternate Assessment Participation Rates in WISEgrants

Last Updated 8/27/2025

Alternate Assessment Participation Overview

Only students with the most significant cognitive disabilities may participate in the alternate assessment (Dynamic Learning Maps), and no student should take the alternate assessment unless they meet the [state's definition](#) of a student with the most significant cognitive disability. These standards promote access to the general curriculum and are expectations of what students with the most significant cognitive disabilities know and can do.

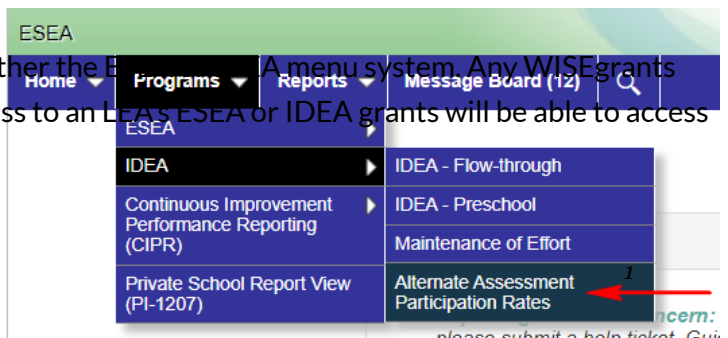
The term "the most significant cognitive disability" is not limited to the Wisconsin impairment category, "Intellectual Disabilities," but rather refers to the state definition, outlined below:

- Typically characterized as functioning at least two and a half to three standard deviations below the mean in both adaptive behavior and cognitive functioning; **and**
- Performs substantially below grade level expectations on the academic content standards of the grade in which they are enrolled, even with the use of adaptations and accommodations; **and**
- A student who requires extensive, direct individualized instruction and substantial support to achieve measurable gains, across all content areas and settings.

Under ESSA (the *Every Student Succeeds Act* - which is the reauthorization title of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act*), the number of students who may take the alternate assessment is limited to no more than 1.0 percent of the total number of all students in the state who are assessed in a given subject ([34 CFR §200.6\(c\)\(2\)](#)).

All LEAs may view their alternate assessment participation rates in WISEgrants, which is DPI's web-based Federal Grants Management system. Assessments are given in the spring of each year and the results submitted to DPI over the summer. Participation rates are determined in the fall, after the close of the previous school year. To view the prior spring participation rates, the LEA would access the report in the current fiscal year. As an example, the participation rate results of the spring 2025 assessments are available in WISEgrants fiscal year 2025-2026.

The participation rate results can be accessed through either the ESEA or IDEA menu system. Any WISEgrants Administrator or WISEgrants User with view or edit access to an LEA's ESEA or IDEA grants will be able to access the participation rate page.



Alternate Assessment Participation Rates Page

2023-2024 Alternate Assessment Participation Rates

As a user, I am in fiscal year 2024-2025 within WISEgrants. The name of the page indicates that these are the final participation rates from the prior school year.

Rate of Students with IEPs taking the Alternate Assessment		
English Language Arts (ELA) Participation Rate 0.89%	Math Participation Rate 0.89%	Science Participation Rate 1.02%
<p>Subject area justifications are only required for rates above 1.00%</p> <p>Expand the panels below to view participation rates by student disability and student racial groups.</p>		
Alternate Assessment Participation Rates Mandatory Response	This panel appears only for LEAs that exceeded the 1% alternate assessment participation threshold in one or more subject areas.	
English Language Arts (ELA) Participation Rates	<p>When the user expands any of the subject area-specific panels, the participation rates are disaggregated by the student racial group, student disability group, economic status and English Learner status.</p> <p>The tables are color-coded to draw attention to student group participation that has either exceeded the 1% threshold or were very close to exceeding the 1% threshold.</p>	
Math Participation Rates		
Science Participation Rates		

When the user enters the Alternate Assessment Participation Rates page, the results will always be from the prior spring (fiscal year). When the user expands any of the subject area-specific panels, the participation rates are disaggregated by student racial group, student disability group, economic and English Learner status. The tables within the panels are color-coded to draw attention to student group participation that has either exceeded the 1% threshold or were very close to exceeding the 1% threshold.

This is an example of the ELA panel expanded to show alternate assessment participation rates, disaggregated by student group, under ELA:

ELA Alternate Assessment Participation Rate by Student Racial Group			
White 0.20 %	American Indian 0.00 %	Asian 0.00 %	Black 0.00 %
Hispanic 0.00 %	Pacific Islander 0.00 %	Two or More Races 8.33 %	

ELA Alternate Assessment Participation Rate by Student Disability Group			
Autism 0.00 %	Deaf-Blind 0.00 %	Emotional-Behavioral Disability 0.00 %	Hearing Impairment 0.00 %
Intellectual Disability (ID) 33.33 %	Other Health Impairment (OHI) 14.29 %	Orthopedic Impairment 0.00 %	Significant Developmental Delay 0.00 %
Specific Learning Disability 0.00 %	Speech / Language Disability 0.00 %	Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) 0.00 %	Visual Impairment 0.00 %

ELA Alternate Assessment Participation Rate / Economic and English Learner Status			
Not Economically Disadvantaged 0.00 %	Economically Disadvantaged 0.98 %	English Proficient (Not EL) 0.35 %	English Learner (EL) 0.00 %

If any of the three subject areas exceeded the 1% participation rate threshold, the LEA will be required to submit a [justification](#) for why the rate was exceeded in that subject area as well as information on how professional development will be provided to IEP members on the definition of most significant cognitive disability and how alternate assessment participation is determined.

Note: If the user needs assistance with the software, please send an email request to ideafiscal@dpi.wi.gov