



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Early Literacy Alternate Assessment Guidance

December 17, 2015

This document contains official guidance for §279.68 regarding Phase I Implementation of Iowa's Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance and information to support Phase I implementation of Iowa's Early Literacy Alternate Assessment, *The Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment*.

Legal Requirements

The Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment is the State approved early literacy assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. It meets the universal screening and progress monitoring requirements for Iowa Code section 279.68 and 281--Iowa Administrative Code 62.

Criteria for Participation

The criteria for participation in the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment reflect the pervasive nature of a significant cognitive disability. Individual Education Program (IEP) teams should use the [Early Literacy Alternate Assessment Flow Chart of Options](#) to determine if the student is able to participate in the general early literacy assessments (e.g., FAST assessments). If the general literacy assessment is determined not to be appropriate, IEP teams must convene and use the [State of Iowa's Alternate Assessments Participation Guidelines](#) to determine if the student is eligible to participate in the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment. Participation guidelines are programmed into the State Web IEP.

Assessment Administration

The Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment is an instructionally embedded assessment. Teachers provide daily comprehensive literacy instruction aligned to the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment, gather evidence of their instruction, and report out student results across assessment windows. Phase I Implementation includes two assessment windows.

- Winter Assessment Window- January 4, 2016 to March 1, 2016.
- Spring Assessment Window March 7, 2016 to May 20, 2016.



Required Assessment Training

Test Administrators (teachers) are required to complete the Early Literacy Alternate Assessment training hosted by AEAPDONLINE. Area Education Agency (AEA) and Urban Education Network (UEN) Significant Disabilities Coordinators are developing plans to support the required assessment training. Please contact your AEA or UEN Significant Disabilities Coordinator to determine training dates. The Early Literacy Alternate Assessment training is open for administrators and others who support the educational programming of students with significant cognitive disabilities.

Phase I Assessment Process Steps

Step 1: Teachers create an account in the DE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system <http://iowaelaa.org> using a security access code. **Teacher security access code will be emailed to District Alternate Assessment Coordinators.** After accounts have been established, teachers build classroom rosters by adding student(s), entering in student information, and completing student learning profiles.

Step 2: Teachers complete required assessment training through AEAPDONLINE.

Step 3: District Alternate Assessment Coordinator/Building Administrators create account in the IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system <http://iowaelaa.org>, verify student participation, and monitor assessment activities. **IDE will email District Alternate Assessment Coordinator and Building Administrator security access codes to District Alternate Assessment Coordinators-anticipated date February 1, 2016.**

Step 4: Teachers align progress monitoring evidence to the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment Scales.

Step 5: Teachers enter assessment results within IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system: <http://iowaelaa.org>



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Iowa Department of Education Activities and Resources to Support Phase I Implementation of the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment

Date	Assessment Activities	Resources
12/16/15	Early Literacy Alternate Assessment Phase I guidance, policy and timelines.	IDE commencement email and Phase I Implementation Guidance & Support document disseminated to District Alternate Assessment Coordinators.
1/4/16-3/1/16	<p>Phase I Early Literacy Alternate Assessment (EL AA) Winter Assessment Window Opens. Teachers provide 90 minutes of daily comprehensive literacy instruction aligned to the DLM Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.</p> <p>Progress monitor weekly each of the assessment scales- gather evidence of instruction.</p>	<p>Iowa Department of Education (IDE) Alternate Assessment Webpage: https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/special-education/assessment-testing/iowa-alternate-assessment-1-iaa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides an overview of the assessment. • Scoring Guide of the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides guidance on how to score the assessment. • The Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment FAQ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides answers to frequently asked questions on policy and guidance and components of the assessment. • IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment Webinars <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides support for implementation- topics vary.



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1/4/16-2/1/16	<p>EL AA Online Data System opens: Teacher user accounts established in IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system.</p> <p>Teachers build classroom roster and complete student information and student learning profile on each student within IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system.</p> <p>Teachers complete the required Early Literacy Alternate Administration Training.</p>	<p>Teachers use security access code provided by District Alternate Assessment Coordinator.</p> <p>Online data system tutorials located on the IDE EL AA home page- web link: http://iowaelaa.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register for an Account • Build Roster • How to submit a support ticket/FAQ <p>Steps to enroll in the training:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Go to: http://training.aeapdonline.org/ 2. Log in with user name and password (or register as a new user). NOTE: If you can't remember your user name and password, DO NOT create a new account. Please call Shelley Christensen, 800-362-2720 at Heartland AEA 11 to retrieve your account information. 3. Click on catalog 4. Click on general professional development modules 5. Scroll until you see K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment 6. Click Enroll
1/5/16	State of Iowa's Early Literacy Alternate Assessment Overview, Timelines & Requirements	<p>IDE Statewide Live Webinar: 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>To join the meeting click on the link: https://IDOE.zoom.us/j/681891492</p> <p>A recorded webinar will be posted on the DE AA webpage:</p>



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		<p>https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/special-education/assessment-testing/iowa-alternate-assessment-1-iaa</p> <p>Click on the link: Iowa’s Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.</p>
1/13/16	<p>Comprehensive Literacy Instruction aligned to the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment</p>	<p>IDE Webinar: 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Comprehensive Literacy Instruction • Creating a Collaborative Professional Community <p>To join the meeting click on the link: https://IDOE.zoom.us/j/231596858</p> <p>A recorded webinar will be posted on the DE AA webpage: https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/special-education/assessment-testing/iowa-alternate-assessment-1-iaa</p> <p>Click on the link: Iowa’s Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.</p>
2/1/16 (Anticipated Date)	<p>District Alternate Assessment Coordinators and Building Administrators create user accounts in IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system.</p> <p>District Alternate Assessment Coordinator and Building Administrators capability to monitor assessment activity status (assessment completed, in progress, not started) IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system.</p> <p>Teachers able to remove/transfer students from classroom roster.</p>	<p>IDE email to District Alternate Assessment Coordinator with District Alternate Assessment Coordinator and Building Administrator security access codes to register for an account in the IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system.</p> <p>Online data system tutorials located on the IDE EL AA home page- web link: iowaেলা.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View Activity Status • Report Assessment Data • Adding and removing student from classroom roster



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2/10/16	Comprehensive Literacy Instruction aligned to the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.	IDE Live Webinar: 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Instructional Profile: Analyzing Current Practices-Developing a Local Understanding: <i>Diagnose for Instructional Design</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Student Learner Profile To join the meeting click on the link: https://IDOE.zoom.us/j/286483254 A recorded webinar will be posted on the DE AA webpage https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/special-education/assessment-testing/iowa-alternate-assessment-1-iaa Click on the link: Iowa’s Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.
3/9/16	Comprehensive Literacy Instruction aligned to the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.	IDE Webinar: 3:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Instructional Profile: Analyzing Current Practices-Instructional Content: Knowledge of the Iowa Core English Language Arts Essential Elements: <i>Design for Instructional Delivery</i> To join the meeting click on the link: https://IDOE.zoom.us/j/413987485 A recorded webinar will be posted on the DE AA webpage https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/special-education/assessment-testing/iowa-alternate-assessment-1-iaa Click on the link: Iowa’s Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.
3/7/16-5/20/16	Phase I Early Literacy Alternate Assessment Spring Assessment Window Opens.	IDE email to District Alternate Assessment Coordinators.
4/1/16 (Anticipated Date)	District Alternate Assessment Coordinator able to set up Building Administrator Accounts	IDE email to District Alternate Assessment Coordinators.



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	<p>Automated email alerts from the IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment online data collection system delivered regarding status of assessment activities (in progress, not started) to District Alternate Assessment Coordinators, Building Administrators, and Teachers.</p>	
<p>4/13/16</p>	<p>Comprehensive Literacy Instruction aligned to the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.</p>	<p>IDE Webinar: 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Instructional Profile: Analyzing Current Practices-Logistics: <i>Design for Instructional Delivery</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Instructional Materials</i> ○ <i>Classroom Schedule</i> ○ <i>Classroom Layout/Arrangement</i> <p>To join the meeting click on the link: https://IDOE.zoom.us/j/749315284</p> <p>A recorded webinar will be posted on the DE AA webpage https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/special-education/assessment-testing/iowa-alternate-assessment-1-iaa</p> <p>Click on the link: Iowa’s Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.</p>
<p>5/18/16</p>	<p>Comprehensive Literacy Instruction aligned to the Dynamic Learning Maps Aligned K-3 Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.</p>	<p>IDE Webinar: 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Instructional Profile: Analyzing Current Practices: <i>Design for Instructional Delivery</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Instructional Practices: Strategies that Ensure Students with Significant Disabilities Access, Participate, and Demonstrate Performance of the Iowa Core English Language Arts Essential Elements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning for Literacy Intervention and Implementation: Emergent



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		<p>and Conventional Readers and Writers</p> <p>To join the meeting click on the link: https://IDOE.zoom.us/j/421166134</p> <p>A recorded webinar will be posted on the DE AA webpage https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/special-education/assessment-testing/iowa-alternate-assessment-1-iaa</p> <p>Click on the link: Iowa’s Early Literacy Alternate Assessment.</p>

Contacts

For questions regarding:

- Early Literacy Alternate Assessment policy and guidance, contact Emily Thatcher at Emily.thatcher@iowa.gov or 515-281-3500.
- Required Early Literacy Alternate Assessment training and support, contact your AEA or UEN Significant Disabilities Coordinator.
- Technical issues related to the IDE Early Literacy Alternate Assessment Online Data Collection System, contact support@iowaেলা.ora or 651-397-2047.
- 279.68, contact: Thomas Mayes : Thomas.mayes@iowa.gov
Barbara Ohlund: Barbara.ohlund@iowa.gov
Amy Williamson: Amy.williamson@iowa.gov