North Carolina Alternate Assessment Decision Making Flow Chart

Has the student been evaluated and determined eligible under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)?

No

Student must participate in the North Carolina required tests using standard administration with or without accommodations. The student may be able to use Accessibility Features. Please see the Testing Students with Disabilities publication for more information.

Yes

Does the student demonstrate a significant cognitive disability and limited adaptive skills that may be combined with physical or behavioral limitation?

The student has been determined to have cognitive abilities falling within the most significant cognitive disability range of 3+ standard deviations below the mean plus or minus one standard error of measure using standardized assessments

AND

demonstrates adaptive skills that are 2 standard deviations below the mean in one area or one and one-half standard deviations below the mean in two or more domains.

No

Student must participate in the general state-wide and district-wide assessment(s). Student may be eligible to use accommodations based on data and IEP team decisions.

Yes

Does the student’s significant cognitive disability impact the level of supports and services needed to progress through the standards?

The student requires a highly specialized educational program with intensive supports and modifications/accommodations

AND

requires daily instruction for core academic standards and functional life skills on a substantially lower grade level than that of other peers with disabilities

AND

requires extensive and repeated individualized instruction and support to make meaningful gains

AND

uses substantially adapted materials and individualized methods of accessing information in alternative ways

AND

services and supports provided outside the general education classroom for greater than 60% of the day

AND

require constant immediate supervision

AND

instruction is from the extended content standards.

No

Student must participate in the general state-wide and district-wide assessment(s). Student may be eligible to use accommodations based on data and IEP team decision.

Yes

Will the student’s significant cognitive disability impact the student’s post-school outcomes compared to same age peers?

No

Student must participate in the general state-wide and district-wide assessment(s). Student may be eligible to use accommodations based on data and IEP team decision.

Yes

Is the student’s inability to participate in the general assessment primarily the result of the extent of the significant cognitive disability and NOT the result of excessive absences, visual or auditory processing, social, cultural, language or economic difference?

No

Student must participate in the general state-wide and district-wide assessment(s). Student may be eligible to use accommodations based on data and IEP team decision.

Yes

Student is eligible to participate in an appropriate North Carolina Alternate Assessment(s).