

Every Student Succeeds Act: Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities



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My Inspiration for High Expectations



Steve Sabia

- Inclusion
- UDL
- College
- Employment
- Independent Living

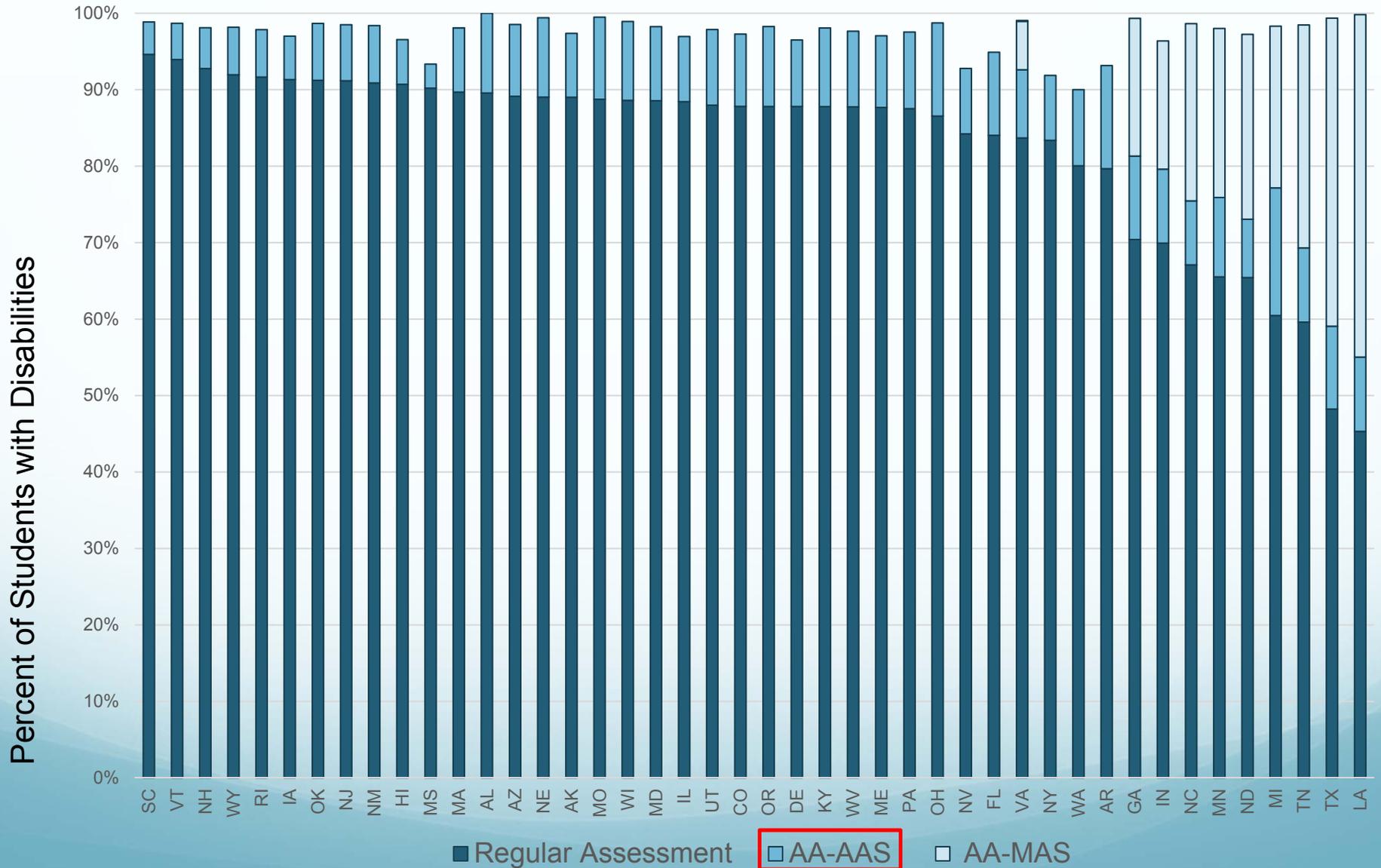
Participation in Alternate Assessment-NCLB

- Since 2003 there has been a 1% cap associated with alternate assessments (1% refers to a number equal to 1% of students assessed, approximately 10% of students with disabilities).
- In NCLB, the cap referred to the number of advanced and proficient scores that could be used from an alternate assessment.

Participation in Alternate Assessment-ESSA

- Under ESSA the cap limits the number of students who can take an alternate assessment
- The cap is applied at the state level, which puts pressure on states to give schools better guidance for IEP teams.
- There is concern about states applying for waivers of the cap-regs on this issue coming later in the summer.

2013-2014 Participation in Reading Assessments (Gr 8)





DLM Alternate Assessment Consortium

DLM-Dynamic Learning Maps

<http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/>

Information for parents

<http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/content/information-parents>



NCSC Alternate Assessment Consortium

NCSC-National Center and State Collaborative
(post –grant assessment called Multi-State
Alternate Assessment)

<http://www.ncscpartners.org/>

NCSC resources for parents

<http://www.ncscpartners.org/resources>

NCSC wiki with instructional resources and toolkit
for building communication skills

<https://wiki.ncscpartners.org>

Enrolled Grade State Content Standards

- Content standards describe WHAT is taught in each grade.
- Achievement standards describe HOW MUCH students are expected to learn to be proficient on the state's general and alternate assessment.
- ALL students are required to have instruction based on the enrolled grade state content standards, even though proficiency is measured differently for students in the alternate assessment.

Pursuit of Postsecondary Education or Employment

- Preparation for college or career has been a key focus of ESEA for many years.
- Now ESSA says that proficiency on an alternate assessment should mean that the student is on track to pursue postsecondary education or competitive integrated employment.

PROGRESS in the General Education Curriculum

- NCLB required states to promote access to the general education curriculum, to the extent possible for students in an alternate assessment.
- ESSA requires states to promote involvement in and progress in the general education curriculum.

Opportunity to Work Towards a Regular Diploma

- Under NCLB 1/3 of states automatically removed students who took an alternate assessment from diploma track.
- ESSA says that states cannot preclude these students from attempting to earn the regular HS diploma.

Alternate Diploma Provision

- For graduation rates, states can now count a student who takes an alternate assessment as if he/she earned a regular diploma IF the student is awarded a state defined alternate diploma.
- This alternate diploma is required to be standards based, aligned with regular diploma requirements, and obtained by IDEA exit age for your state (usually age 21).
- This is NOT a regular diploma for any purpose other than calculating graduation rate.

Education in the LRE

ESSA doesn't mention LRE, but the following provisions help parents make the argument for inclusion:

- The state must promote involvement in and progress in the general education curriculum for all students based on the state content standards.
- ALL students must be given the opportunity to attempt to complete requirements for a regular HS diploma.

Accommodations

- ESSA encourages the development and dissemination of accommodations to help more students take the general assessment
- ESSA provides grants for professional development on the use of accommodations in instruction and assessment.

Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

- UDL is clearly recognized in ESSA as an accepted practice.
- Numerous assessment references to UDL
- The large literacy grant in ESSA incorporates UDL principles in the definition of comprehensive literacy instruction, which must be provided across content areas.

NDSC Resources

- Top 5 Things To Know about ESSA and IEP Meetings: <http://bit.ly/1WO7LJ1>
- Detailed document on ESSA FAQs and IEP Tips: <http://bit.ly/1nVgGt1>
- Stakeholder Activities by State for ESSA Plan Development: <http://bit.ly/25cMbyZ>
- ESSA General Talking Points: <http://bit.ly/1qS81Ik>