

Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD)

Assessment Overview

Ohio’s Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD) is a statewide assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to participate in the state’s general assessment. The AASCD is designed to allow students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills as they relate to Ohio’s New Learning Standards. Key aspects of the AASCD include the following:

- The content of the AASCD is appropriately rigorous and aligned to Ohio’s Academic Content Standards - Extended
- Students respond to tasks/items or prompts
- The scores reflect student knowledge and skills
- These scores provide information that allows educators to build and maintain instruction aligned with academic expectations

Below you will find a chart which outlines the main features of the alternate assessment.

Feature	AASCD Description
Vendor	American Institutes for Research, the same vendor for the Ohio’s State Tests, Ohio Graduation Tests, and Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA).
Testing Population	Developed for students with significant cognitive disabilities who cannot meaningfully participate in the state’s general tests.
Eligibility	The IEP team determines whether a student will participate in the AASCD using guidelines provided by federal regulations.
Test Administrators	Only trained test administrators who hold a license, certificate, or permit issued by ODE may administer the AASCD. Each content area is administered by one TA.
Test Design and Administration	Individually administered student performance assessment aligned to Ohio’s Academic Content Standards – Extended (OACS-E) that tests discrete academic skills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test materials available in print form through a test booklet with a detailed script • Test administrator administers the test based on performance items/tasks in each content area and grade/grade bands • Test administrator scoring based upon accuracy of response • Student responses will be entered into a web-based scoring system • Student scores available in real-time upon test submission

The AASCD is administered by grade band (3-5, 6-8, High School). Students will take the AASCD in the same grades and content areas that are administered for Ohio’s State Tests in grades 3-8. High school students take the AASCD in grade 10.

Form	Student Grade	Content Areas to be Administered to Each Student
3-5	3	English language arts and mathematics
	4	English language arts and mathematics
	5	English language arts, mathematics and science
6-8	6	English language arts and mathematics
	7	English language arts and mathematics
	8	English language arts, mathematics and science
High School	10	English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies