



Special Education Advisory Panel
June 22, 2022



Public Comment and Participation Procedures



Public Comment Procedures

SEAP adheres to formal comment procedures.

- Comments will be allowed on all agenda items for a maximum of three minutes per person.
 - The panel will receive all comments and may engage in further dialogue on the agenda item as a result of the comments received.
- A person may only comment once per agenda item unless allowed an exception by the chair.
- The order and time of comment is left solely to the chair.
- Persons making public comments shall identify themselves and the group they represent, if applicable.
- Persons addressing the panel shall do the following:
 - Confine remarks to the merits of a specific agenda item before the panel.
 - Refrain from attacking a panel member's motives.
 - Address all remarks through the chair.
 - Refrain from speaking adversely on a prior action not pending.

Open Meetings Law

Louisiana Open Meetings Law establishes expectations that:

- Public business is performed in a an open and public manner.
- Citizens are advised of and aware of the performance of public officials and the deliberations and decisions that go into the making of public policy.
- Citizens are given written notice of meetings at least 24 hours in advance.
- Public bodies keep written minutes of all open meetings.

Membership Roles

The panel must include members that fill each of the 11 roles listed below, understanding that panel members may represent more than one role.

- Parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26)
- Individuals with disabilities
- Teachers
- Representative of higher education
- Local education official representing McKinney- Vento Homeless Act
- Administrator of a program serving students with disabilities
- Representative from state agency representative responsible for related services
- Representative of private schools
- Representative of vocational, community, or business providing transition
- Representative from state child welfare agency for foster care
- Representative from the state juvenile and adult correctional agency

Purpose of the Panel

The purpose of the SEAP is:

- Established in accordance with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 2004 SEC. 612 State Eligibility (21) and
- Provides policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in Louisiana.



Approval of Meeting Minutes



Meeting Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the March 23, 2022 meeting:

- [https://go.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/CCUSZE7517E8/\\$file/SEAP%20Minutes%203-23-22.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/la/bese/Board.nsf/files/CCUSZE7517E8/$file/SEAP%20Minutes%203-23-22.pdf)





Panel Policy and Procedure





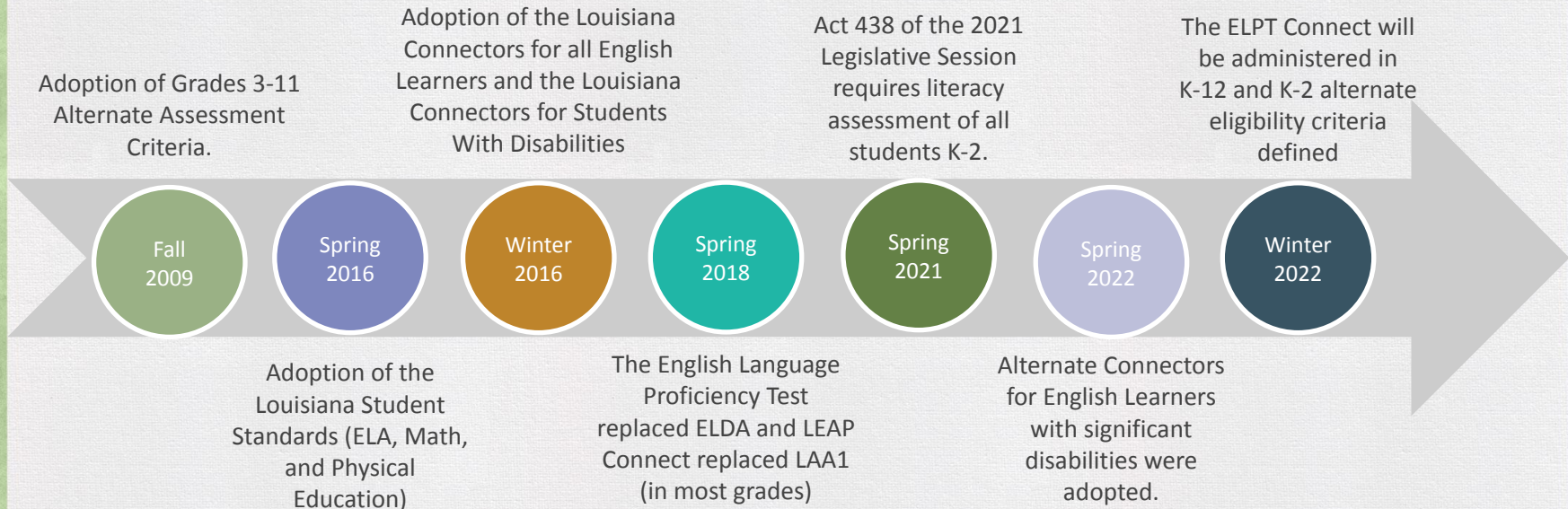
**Revisions to Bulletin 1530: Louisiana's IEP Handbook for
Students with Exceptionalities**



K-2 Alternate Assessment Eligibility

Alternate Assessment Timeline Overview

The Department has developed a workgroup to meet the federal requirements for providing an alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities.



K-2 Alternate Assessment Eligibility

Alternate Assessment Policy Background

The Department has developed a workgroup to meet the federal requirements for providing an alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

- The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act requires that alternate assessments are provided for students with significant cognitive disabilities.
 - Bulletin 1530 Chapter 5 provides policy for participation in alternate assessments, such as LEAP Connect, for students in grades 3-11.
- There are assessments that are administered to students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades Kindergarten through 2 such as the English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT).
 - The Department has collaborated with stakeholders to provide an alternate assessment for ELPT that will be known as ELPT Connect to be administered for the first time in Winter 2023.
- The Department has facilitated a workgroup to align participation criteria in the K-2 alternate assessment criteria with grades 3-11 and best practices.

K-2 Alternate Assessment Eligibility Workgroup Timeline and Activities

The K-2 Alternate Assessment Eligibility Criteria workgroup has been meeting since January 2022 to develop a framework for evaluating K2 students' eligibility to participate in alternate assessments.

Time Frame	Activity
January 2022	LDOE formed K-2 alternate assessment eligibility criteria workgroup; group attends a virtual kick-off event.
February 2022 - March 2022	Workgroup met to pilot and test the draft tool.
March 23, 2022	Draft tool shared with Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP).
April 2022	Workgroup met virtually to discuss the draft policy language and updates to the draft tool from feedback gathered during SEAP.
May 2022	Draft tool circulated for feedback at Teacher Leader Summit.

K-2 Alternate Assessment Eligibility

Proposed Policy & Revisions

Based on stakeholder engagement and feedback, the Department is proposing revisions to Bulletin 1530 – Louisiana’s IEP Handbook for Students with Exceptionalities, §505 Alternate Assessment Participation Criteria.

The proposed revisions stipulate that in order to participate in the K-2 Alternate Assessment, students must participate in annual screeners and the IEP team must determine eligibility annually, using qualitative and quantitative data when available for students who:

1. Have a significant cognitive disability or multiple disabilities that significantly impact cognitive and adaptive functioning identified either through a full-scale cognitive score or through the three domains outlined in the K-2 Alternate Assessment Participation Decision-Making Tool (Conceptual, Social, or Practical)
2. Have IEP goals and instruction linked to Louisiana state standards supported by the Connector standards.
3. Require extensive, repeated, direct, individualized instruction and substantial support to achieve measurable gains in the grade level and age-appropriate curriculum.

K-2 Alternate Assessment Eligibility

Moving Forward: Key Activities

Ahead of the Winter 2022 administration of the ELPT Connect assessment, the Department is planning several key activities to support educators with operationalizing the K-2 Alternate Assessment Criteria.

Time Frame	Activity
Summer 2022	The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) will circulate the draft tool, along with the proposed policy revisions, with key stakeholder groups.
August 2022	The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) will consider the policy revisions.
Fall 2022	The LDOE will publish the K-2 Alternate Assessment Participation Decision-Making Tool to assist educators with identifying K-2 students eligible for alternate assessment.
Winter 2022	The administration of the ELPT Connect assessment.
Ongoing	The Department will provide ongoing progress monitoring of implementation.

SEAP Retreat



Panel Member Recognition

June 2022
Katherine Chenier - Charter Schools Rep
Kellie Taylor-White - Related Services Rep
Nicole Flores - Parent
LaTrese LaCour - State Child Welfare Foster Care Rep
Melissa Bayham - Rep of vocational, community, or business providing transition
Parent - Kelly Fleming (10/2022)
Parent - Kristine Hargrave (10/2022)
Parent - Tamara Crane (10/2022)

2022-2023 Meeting Dates

Meeting Date	Submit Item Agenda Date
September 21, 2022	August 24, 2022
November 16, 2022	October 19, 2022
January 25, 2023	January 25, 2023
March 22, 2023	February 22, 2023
June 21, 2023	May 17, 2023



* Note: Panel meetings are from 9:30 -12:30 in the Claiborne building unless otherwise noted.



Panel Workshop



Resiliency, Self-Awareness, Self-Care, and Team Cohesiveness for our Special Education Advisory Panel

Presented By: Lynda Carmouche

Adjournment

