

- IV. Assessing students with disabilities



- 4.4.2: Why is assessing students with disabilities so important?



Why is assessing students with disabilities so important in alternative settings?

- 30-60% of adjudicated youths have a disability thus...
  - The adjudicated population is significantly over-represented by youths with disabilities.
  - The proper assessment of students with disabilities is essential for quality programming in alternative settings.

- Federal laws requires that students with disabilities be included in state and district-wide assessment because...
  - The requirement holds schools accountable for the success (and failure) of students with disabilities
    - “High expectations for students means high expectations for teachers and schools.”

- Participation in assessment programs benefit students with disabilities by...
  - Increasing the chances students with disabilities will be exposed to the general education curriculum
  - Increasing the potential post-school options of students with disabilities

- Participation of a student with disabilities in an assessment should...
  - start out with the premise that all students will participate in the assessment process
  - allow students to participate regardless of low expectations

- allow students to participate to identify weaknesses in school programming if necessary
- be ultimately decided by the IEP team