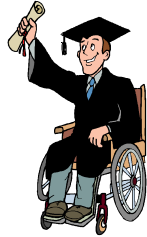


- Assessing students with disabilities



- 4.4.5: How can assessments be **modified** for students with disabilities?



- A modification is a change that does alter the assessment content or what the assessment is measuring. Common related terms include...
  - non-standard
  - non-approved
  - non-aggregatable
  - alternative assessment

- The IEP team determines if a modification or alternative assessment is appropriate.

- An alternative assessment...
  - is a process for collecting data that indicates what a student knows and can do
  - is used with those student who are unable to participate in general large-scale assessments
  - provides a mechanism for those with the most significant disabilities to participate in the accountability system
  - is for only a very small group of students

- Some data collection strategies might include...
  - observing the student systematically
    - using behavioral observation techniques
  - using recollection
    - interviews
    - rating scales

- examining records
  - school cumulative records
  - school databases
  - student products
  - anecdotal records
- tests
  - quantitative
  - qualitative

» (Ysseldyke & Olsen, 1997)

- The purpose of alternative assessment is...
  - the same as any statewide or district-wide assessment thus
    - the same areas included in other statewide or district-wide assessments should be include in alternative assessments (i.e., math, reading, etc.).
    - what areas are important to most students should be considered important for all students but the level changes

- Out-of-level testing is...
  - assessing students using materials closer to their academic level, not grade level
  - not suggested because it may...
    - lower expectations
    - limit opportunities for students to go to the next grade level
    - provide confusing scores about what the student is capable of doing

- Both alternative assessments and out-of-level assessments are and should be rare in alternative educational settings.