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DPS: 2022-136

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** School District Superintendents

**FROM:** Jacob Oliva

**DATE:** August 26, 2022

**SUBJECT: Accommodations for Students with Disabilities on Progress Monitoring Assessments During the 2022-2023 School Year**

The 2022 Legislature passed, and Governor DeSantis signed into law, [Senate Bill \(SB\) 1048](#), which became effective July 1, 2022, to create Florida's Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) progress monitoring system. Pursuant to amended sections (ss.) 1008.2125 and 1008.22(3), Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Rule 6A-1.0943, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the following must be taken into consideration for students with disabilities requiring accommodations:

- Accommodations must be provided as indicated on the student's current individual educational plan (IEP) or Section 504 plan. Care must be taken to provide a student with only the allowable accommodations permitted for that student. In addition, students with disabilities must be provided the opportunity to participate in practice activities for the statewide progress monitoring (PM) activities with appropriate, allowable accommodations.
- Accommodations should be provided for all three administrations (PM1, PM2 and PM3). Please see the [2022-2023 Statewide Assessments Accommodations Guide](#) for more information about allowable accommodations.
- For students who transfer from districts or states, the IEP team should provide comparable accommodations and/or determine and document on the IEP the identified accommodations needed. Refer to [section 300.323\(e\) and \(f\) of Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations \(C.F.R.\)](#), and [Rule 6A-6.03028, F.A.C.](#)
- In order to be approved for use during testing, a unique accommodation must be documented on an IEP or a Section 504 plan, used regularly by the student in the classroom, and not negate the validity or threaten the security of the assessment. Requests should be reviewed and approved by district coordinators before submission to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE). Each unique accommodation must be approved every calendar year by the Commissioner of Education, or a designee, prior to its use.

JACOB OLIVA  
SENIOR CHANCELLOR

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities on Progress Monitoring Assessments During the 2022-2023 School Year  
August 26, 2022

- Guidance on the approval for use of unique accommodations is as follows:
  - Unique accommodations (i.e., audible accommodation for students with a decoding deficit) previously approved by the Commissioner should be considered automatically approved for use during the 2022-2023 administration of PM1 and PM2.
  - New requests or resubmissions for unique accommodations must be made 60 days prior to the administration of PM3. Approved requests will remain in effect through PM2 of the following school year. Please contact [Kath.Visconti@fldoe.org](mailto:Kath.Visconti@fldoe.org) for additional information.
- Per s. 1008.212, F.S., the IEP team, which must include the parent, may submit to the school district superintendent a written request for an extraordinary exemption at any time during the school year, but not later than 60 days before the current year's assessment administration for which the request is made. This established timeline will be required only for PM3.
- Per s. 1008.22, F.S., and Rule 6A-1.0943, F.A.C., the IEP team, which must include the parent, may submit to the school district superintendent a written request for a medical complexity exemption at any time during the school year, but not later than 30 days before the current year's assessment administration for which the request is made. This established timeline will be required only for PM3.
- The FDOE has approved the use of the alternative instruments that are available for local use in evaluating students with visual and hearing impairments who are not able to access the Star Early Literacy or FAST. Please see the attachments for a list of these alternative instruments.

If you have any questions, please contact Christina Whitfield at 850-245-0475 or [Christina.Whitfield@fldoe.org](mailto:Christina.Whitfield@fldoe.org) or Kath Visconti at 850-245-0513 or [Kath.Visconti@fldoe.org](mailto:Kath.Visconti@fldoe.org).

JO/cw

Attachments

cc: School District Student Support Services Directors  
School District Exceptional Student Education Directors  
School District Assessment Coordinators