

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (SWD)

This section will guide Delaware educators through the decision-making process for participation in the statewide assessments for Students with Disabilities. See page 21 for information on Students with Disabilities who are also English Learners (SwD/EL).

Use of the Accessibility Form

The Accessibility Form should not replace the “Accommodations and Modifications, Supports, and Services” section of the Individualized Education Program (IEP). After the IEP team has already discussed the supports and accommodations that a student needs, the team can match the supports and accommodations the student receives during instruction and classroom assessments to those found on the Accessibility Form.

Eligibility

Students who have been formally identified as needing special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act or under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are eligible to test with Level 1, 2 or 3 on all or part of the DeSSA (ELA/Literacy, Math, Science and Social Studies) and accommodations for the DeSSA-Alt (ELA, Math and Science).

Students who have been formally identified through the IEP or 504 process but do not have accommodations or assistive devices documented in their plans are not eligible for any accommodations during the statewide assessments. “None” should be selected for each content area and then entered into TIDE.

The decision tree on page 2 summarizes decision-making steps for determining the testing condition under which a student will be assessed.

The Department of Education expects that a student's accommodations and supports on the Accessibility Form and entered in the TIDE, DLM, or SAT database will be available, offered, and provided on the days of testing.

All accommodations should be entered into the appropriate database prior to April 1.

Figure 2. Decision Tree for Assessing Students with Disabilities

