**24:05:14:14.01.  Alternate assessments.** As appropriate, the department or local educational agency shall develop and implement alternate assessments and guidelines for the participation of children with disabilities in alternate assessments for those children who cannot participate in regular assessments even with accommodations as indicated in their respective individualized education programs. The alternate assessments and guidelines shall provide for alternate assessments that:

(1)  Are aligned with the state's challenging academic content standards and challenging student academic achievement standards;

(2)  If the state has adopted modified academic achievement standards permitted under the regulations promulgated to carry out the ESEA, measure the achievement of children with disabilities against those standards; and

(3)  If the state has adopted alternate academic achievement standards permitted under the regulations promulgated to carry out the ESEA, measure the achievement of children with the most significant cognitive disabilities against those standards.

As appropriate, the department or local educational agency shall provide IEP teams with a clear explanation of the differences between assessments based on grade-level academic achievement standards and those based on modified or alternate academic achievement standards, including any effects of state or local policies on the student's education resulting from taking an alternate assessment based on alternate or modified academic achievement standards, such as whether only satisfactory performance on a regular assessment would qualify a student for a regular high school diploma.

As appropriate, the department or local educational agency shall ensure that parents of students selected to be assessed based on alternate or modified academic achievement standards are informed that their child's achievement will be measured based on alternate or modified academic achievement standards.

**Source:** 33 SDR 236, effective July 5, 2007.

**General Authority:** SDCL 13-37-1.1.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 13-37-1.1.