

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT STUDENTS

LEARNING SUPPORT ACTIVITIES • TEACHER RESOURCE

Accommodations help remove barriers that may interfere with a student's ability to demonstrate learning. The purpose of an accommodation is to provide equitable access to an assessment without changing the learning objective or lowering academic expectations.

Presentation Accommodations

- Repeat directions as needed
- Provide written and visual directions
- Use picture supports or graphic organizers
- Present one question or task at a time

Response Accommodations

- Allow signed responses instead of written responses when appropriate
- Accept video-recorded demonstrations
- Use pointing, matching, or selecting responses
- Permit assistive technology when documented

Setting Accommodations

- Quiet testing environment
- Small-group or individual assessment setting
- Reduced visual and auditory distractions

Timing & Scheduling Accommodations

- Extended time
- Frequent breaks
- Flexible scheduling
- Divide longer assessments into shorter sessions

Organization & Support

- Checklists for multi-step tasks
- Visual schedules
- Frequent teacher check-ins
- Prompting to remain on task when appropriate

Important Reminders

- Accommodations should align with the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan.
- Maintain the same learning objective for all students.
- Accommodations provide access—they do not reduce expectations.
- Document accommodations used during the assessment when required.

★ Key Takeaway

The purpose of accommodations is to remove barriers—not standards. Students should have meaningful opportunities to demonstrate what they know while working toward the same learning goals as their peers.