

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO PARTICIPATION IN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS
IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The proposed amendments would update the publication, *Participation Guidelines for Inclusion of Alaska Students in State Assessments*, which define the assessment criteria of all Statewide Alaska Assessments.

The State Board of Education and Early Development proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 4 of the Alaska Administrative Code dealing with administering statewide assessments to students with disabilities under 4 AAC 60.775 (a).

A copy of the proposed regulation changes and the *Participation Guidelines for Inclusion of Alaska Students in State Assessments, 2022 Edition*, proposed to be adopted by reference, are available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System, at <https://education.alaska.gov/regs/comment.cfm>, and by contacting Kelly Manning at (907) 465-2800 or at deed.commissioner@alaska.gov.

The updated publication, *Participation Guidelines for Inclusion of Alaska Students in State Assessments, 2022 Edition*, proposed to be adopted by reference, is available at <https://education.alaska.gov/assessments/accommodations> and in the DEED Commissioner's Office located at 801 W 10th Street, Suite 200, Juneau, Alaska 99801. To schedule a time to review the standards in the Commissioner's Office, please call (907) 465-2800 or email deed.commissioner@alaska.gov.

The Department of Education and Early Development invites the public to submit written comments during the written comment period, which begins with the date of this notice and ends on January 26, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. The written comment period closes in advance of the meeting of the State Board of Education and Early Development at which the board will consider the adoption of the proposed regulation change. This allows the Department of Education and Early Development an opportunity to prepare changes based on written comment and to distribute any proposed changes to the board for its consideration prior to the meeting.

You may comment in writing on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to the Commissioner's Office, Department of Education and Early Development, Attn: Regulations Review, 801 West Tenth Street, Suite 200, PO Box 110500, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500. You also may submit written comments by facsimile at (907) 465-4156; by electronic mail to deed.commissioner@alaska.gov and online at the website of the Department of Education and Early Development at <https://education.alaska.gov/regs/comment.cfm>. Written comments also may be submitted through the Alaska Online Public Notice System by accessing this notice on the system and using the comment link.

All written comments must be received not later than 4:30 p.m. on January 26, 2022.

After the written comment period has ended, you may submit oral comments to the State Board of Education and Early Development at a hearing to be held by the board on March 1, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., by Zoom virtual platform. The teleconferencing facilities will be operated from the Department of Education and Early Development, Andrew P. Kashevaroff (APK) Building, 395 Whittier Street, Juneau, AK 99801. The public comment period will be held from 9:10 a.m. to 10:10 a.m. but may be extended. You may join the online Zoom meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/99391482721> or by calling 1-253-215-8782 and selecting *9 on your phone's keypad. To mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, in-person

attendance will not be permitted. When public comment is over, the meeting will continue to be broadcast at the above website.

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Kelly Manning at deed.commissioner@alaska.gov or the Department of Education and Early Development, Attn: Regulations Review, PO Box 110500, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500. If a question is relevant to the proposed change in the regulations and the question is received by January 16, 2022, which is ten days before the end of the public comment period, the department will make a good faith effort to answer the question before the end of the public comment period. The Department of Education and Early Development will aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and on the website of the Department of Education and Early Development at <https://education.alaska.gov/regs/comment.cfm>. The Department of Education and Early Development may, but is not required to, answer written questions received after the ten-day cut-off date and before the end of the comment period.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Kelly Manning at (907) 465-2800 or deed.commissioner@alaska.gov not later than February 18, 2022, to ensure that any necessary accommodation can be provided.

After the public comment period ends, the Department of Education and Early Development will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action. The language of the final regulation may be different from that of the proposed regulation. You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected. Written comments received are public records and are subject to public inspection.

Statutory authority: AS 14.07.020, AS 14.07.060, AS 14.07.165

Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific: AS 14.03.075

Fiscal information: The proposed regulation change is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

Date: 12/23/2021



Heidi Teshner, Acting Deputy Commissioner