



Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment – 1.0 Percent Participation Threshold Justification

The Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment (PASA) 1.0 Percent Participation Threshold Justification process was developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education (BSE) in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The ESSA requires Pennsylvania to ensure that the total number of students assessed in each subject using the PASA does not exceed one percent of the total number of all students in the state assessed on the statewide assessments. Each local educational agency (LEA) must complete and submit the PASA 1.0 Percent Participation Threshold Justification to BSE if it anticipates that more than 1.0 Percent of its students enrolled in grades 3-8 and 11 will be assessed using the PASA. A list of LEAs who anticipate exceeding the threshold will be made publicly available on the PDE website, in accordance with 34 CFR 200.6 (c)(3) regulations. LEAs must also make the document publicly available upon request, removing any personally identifiable information. Any LEA that exceeds the 1.0 percent threshold may be subject to further review by BSE.

DIRECTIONS FOR SUBMISSION:

- A. The LEA must complete the 1.0 Percent Threshold form and retain the form with required signatures on file. If a request from the public is made to view the contents of the document, the LEA must comply, ensuring that no personally identifiable information is shared.
- B. Once the LEA completes the form, they must also complete the online survey issued by the PA Department of Education. This step serves as the LEA's required submission to BSE. Please note, the survey must be completed in one session, as there is no availability to save and return to the survey. It is recommended that the LEA have the completed 1.0 Percent Threshold Justification document with them when completing the survey, as the same information will be required. The survey is currently open and closes on October 15, 2019. The survey can be accessed at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/1pctPASA19-20>.

