



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** District Test Coordinators and Directors of Special Education

**FROM:** Mary Anne Butler  
Chief Academic Officer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "MAB", written in blue ink.

**DATE:** December 11, 2015

**SUBJECT:** 2015 National Center and State Collaborative AA-AAS Results

The Connecticut State Department of Education trained over 2,200 special education teachers to administer the National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) Alternate Assessment in English language arts and mathematics to students identified with significant cognitive disabilities in Grades 3-8 and 11 in the spring of 2015. This was Connecticut's first statewide administration of this alternate assessment aligned to the Common Core Standards, as well as the Connecticut Core State standards.

Within the next two weeks, Nexus district (the district that has the legal responsibility to identify, educate and pay for a special education student under the Individuals with Disabilities Act) test coordinators will receive via U.S. mail, two copies of the confidential Individual Student Reports. One copy is for the student records and one copy should be provided to parents/guardians. Districts should make an additional copy of the Individual Student Reports to provide to the appropriate Approved Private Special Education Programs for their students. [Parent Overviews](#) are provided on the Connecticut State Department of Education's NCSC Results Web page to provide additional information for parents/guardians.

[Connecticut's NCSC 2015 Guide for Score Report Interpretation](#) is also available on the NCSC Results Web page for your reference. Please note the Writing Constructed Response scores are not included in the English language arts scores. The Writing Prompt Scores are not provided on the Individual Student Reports, but are included with the secure electronic student-level data for professional development purposes.

In addition to these Individual Student Reports, Directors of Special Education in each Nexus District may access secure student-level data electronically via the Special Education Data Application and Collection (SEDAC) site for a limited time. The file titled, NCSC (CTAA) Student-Level Assessment Data by Nexus District (Spring 2015 Test Data), is accessible under the Statewide Reports section of SEDAC. Directors of Special Education have secure access to download the file and provide a confidential copy to District Test Coordinators.

Similar to other state assessments, public summary information is provided on the Performance Office Web page under the Reports/Summary Data section listed as [2015 National Center and State Collaborative \(NCSC\) Alternate Assessment](#).

As we move forward improving instruction and assessment for this relatively small and heterogeneous population, we have re-branded the NCSC assessment to the Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA), which will be provided to eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities in Grades 3-8 and 11 beginning in the spring of 2016. We appreciate your efforts as we support these students in demonstrating what they know and can do.

If you have additional questions, Janet Stuck or Joe Amenta can be contacted in the Academic Office via the following contact information:

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