

WATERLOO COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT (WCSD) POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTION

Alternative Measures for Proficiency

If a student is not proficient in one or more of the content areas of reading, mathematics, and science on the Iowa Assessments, the school board may establish alternative but equivalent qualifying performance measures (Senior Year Plus Guide, Iowa Department of Education, 2016).

If a student is not proficient in one or more of the academic areas of reading, mathematics, and science on the Iowa Assessments, any of the following alternative measures may be used:

Alternative Measures in Determining Proficiency

Alternative measures must assess proficiency in reading, mathematics, and science. In addition, the goal for the alternative method is to provide an accurate reflection of student proficiency within a content area (SYPG, 2016). The grid below allows flexibility in various measures used to determine proficiency.

- The ACT subject score of 20 (average college cut score) satisfies the achievement of a candidate within a particular content area.
- The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) measures ability and satisfies the reading or mathematics score. The CogAT assessment must be given within two years to be a valid measuring tool.
- The Naglieri is a culturally-fair assessment which satisfies the mathematics or science score.
- The Standard Age Score (SAS) and Naglieri Ability Index (NAI) of 97 is consistent with the proficiency cut scores of the Iowa Assessment.
- A high school semester course grade of a 'B' or higher in the most recent reading, mathematics, or science can be used to satisfy one of the content areas. A teacher recommendation in the subject area provides further evidence of student proficiency within a content area.

Use the grid to identify an alternative measure that satisfies each content area:

Reading	Mathematics	Science
ACT – 20	ACT – 20	ACT – 20
CogAT – Verbal (SAS) 97	CogAT – Quantitative (SAS) 97	Naglieri – (NAI) 97
	CogAT – Nonverbal (SAS) 97	
	Naglieri – (NAI) 97	
High school semester course grade of 'B' or better in the most recent reading course. Teacher recommendation in subject area must be included.	High school semester course grade of 'B' or better in the most recent mathematics course. Teacher recommendation in subject area must be included.	High school semester course grade of 'B' or better in the most recent science course. Teacher recommendation in subject area must be included.

ADOPTED: 5/8/17

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