



## Tier 2 Guidance

**Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education  
November 2024**

The first five items must be done for each member district in Tier 2:

- The ISD must work with the member districts to ensure students are participating in the appropriate assessment and are receiving an education that is rigorous and challenging for the student. All four of the required criteria in the definition of “a student with the most cognitive disabilities” must be met to be eligible for the use of MI-Access based on alternate educational content standards.
- Ensure all staff are trained on the four required criteria for participation in MI-Access based on alternate educational content standards.
- Review the IEP team-facing rubric [on the TA site](#) and incorporate its use into training for IEP teams who are considering the use of MI-Access based on alternate standards.
- Review flagged cases in the Flagged Student Cases file for students who are at high risk for not meeting one or more of the four required criteria to be eligible for the use of MI-Access based on alternate educational standards.
- For flagged cases of students who continue to meet all four required criteria for the use of MI-Access based on alternate educational standards but are also surpassing the alternate educational standards to which they have been assigned, conduct an Educational Benefit Review. The Educational Benefit Review should detail how to incorporate more challenging instruction, curriculum, and goals, including content that reaches general grade-level standards.
- Districts in Tier 2 with disproportionality must also use the rubric to review up to eight student cases from the over-identified subgroup of students (for example, Hispanic students), to ensure that each student meets all four required criteria to be eligible for alternate standards for assessments.