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| **­Contributing Factors:**  \*Part of Hawaii State Participation Guidelines | **Red Flags:**  **Do NOT use as contributing factors** |
| * **IEP Team decision\*** | * **Individual/Administrator decision** * **Concern about meeting 1% Cap** |
| * **Student with most significant cognitive disability\***   *Def. “A student with a most significant cognitive disability is one who has records that indicate a disability or multiple disabilities that significantly impact intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior. This is NOT determined by an IQ test score, but rather by a holistic understanding of a student.1* | * **Social, cultural, environmental factors\*** * **Low expectations for performance\*** * **Excessive absences\*** * **Socio-economic status** * **Poor academic preparation** * **Language/English Learner (EL) status** |
| * **Limited adaptive behavior\***   *Def. “Adaptive behavior is the essential actions required by an individual to live independently and to function safely in daily life.”* | * **Anticipated disruptive behavior** |
| * **Anticipated emotional duress** |
| * **Need for modified curriculum\***   *Range Performance Level Descriptors* | * **Need for accommodations or specialized services** |
| * **Augmentative assistive communication** |
| * **Need for extensive, repeated, individualized instruction\*** | * **Instructional setting; e.g., FSC setting** |
| * **Range Performance Level Descriptors are at an appropriate instructional level for student** * **HSA-Alt is an appropriate test for student** | * **Poor academic preparation; three or more grade levels below peers** |
| * **Low reading level** |
| * **General assessment is “too hard”** |
| * **Impact of test scores on accountability system** |

Characteristics of students with the most significant cognitive disability: Students who are eligible for HSA-Alt testing may be from any of the disability categories listed in the IDEA. The three most prevalent disability categories for HSA-Alt identified students are the IDEA categories: intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorder, or multiple disabilities. HSA-Alt identified students are typically identified early (pre-K or K) and exhibit limited expressive and receptive communication capacities.

1 Adapted from [Guidance for IEP Teams on Participation Decisions for the Multi-State Alternate Assessment](https://cms.azed.gov/home/GetDocumentFile?id=585019d1aadebe050c5743c1), August 2016