

The following survey is designed for those professionals who currently are working in an “alternative education” program, or who worked in one sometime during the past five years. The survey should take approximately ten minutes or less to complete. Results of this survey will be posted on the National Alternative Education Association web site.

1. Male _____ Female _____

2. What is the highest academic degree you have attained?
 _____ B.A. or B.S. _____ M.A. or M.S. _____ Ph.D. or Ed.D.

3. How many years have you been employed in each of the following educational capacities?

Teacher	_____ year(s)
Principal or School Administrator	_____ year(s)
School Counselor or Social Worker	_____ year(s)
Other (specify) _____	_____ year(s)

4. How many years have you been employed in what you would define as an “alternative” school or program? _____ year(s)

5. In what capacity are you currently employed in alternative education?

_____ Teacher
_____ Principal or Administrator
_____ School Counselor or Social Worker
_____ Other (specify) _____

6. Professional educators do not necessarily agree on what is considered to be under the broad term “alternative education.” Which of the following would you say should be included as part of alternative education?

	Should be included —	Yes	No
a) programs for academically “at-risk” students	_____	_____	_____
b) programs for students who are “disciplinary problems”	_____	_____	_____
c) programs for “gifted and talented” students	_____	_____	_____
d) “special education” programs	_____	_____	_____
e) programs for “severe behaviorally disordered” students	_____	_____	_____
f) programs for students with severe physical disabilities	_____	_____	_____
g) programs for students who are drug/alcohol addicted	_____	_____	_____
h) programs for pregnant or parenting adolescents	_____	_____	_____
I) programs for incarcerated students	_____	_____	_____
j) vocational schools	_____	_____	_____
k) charter schools	_____	_____	_____
l) programs for students with uncommon family situations	_____	_____	_____
m) other _____	_____	_____	_____
n) other _____	_____	_____	_____
7. Do you believe that the field of alternative education would benefit from the development of professional guidelines for the accreditation of alternative programs?	_____ Yes	_____ No	
8. Do you believe that the field of alternative education would benefit from the development of special certification guidelines for alternative educators?	_____ Yes	_____ No	
9. Do you believe that the pre-service training in most colleges of education is effective in preparing new teachers to work in alternative programs?	_____ Yes	_____ No	↓

10. Do you believe that most in-service or professional development programs for experienced educators are effective in preparing them to work in alternative programs? Yes No

11. Do you believe that the majority of educators who first worked in “traditional” educational settings are adequately prepared to work effectively when they first enter service in “alternative” settings? Yes No

12. Do you believe that the current proficiency exams or other educational assessment measures required in your state are useful in any of the following ways?

- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) guiding the development of alternative programs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) measuring the effectiveness of alternative programs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) guiding the professional development of alternative educators | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) measuring the effectiveness of alternative educators | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e) appropriately guiding the allocation of educational funding | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

13. To be effective, do you believe that persons who work in alternative educational settings need to master a specialized body of knowledge and a specialized set of skills?

Special Body of Knowledge	Special Set of Skills
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

If you said “yes” to the question above, could you briefly describe what you consider to be the core knowledge and the core skills that alternative educators need to master?

Core Knowledge

Core Skills

14. Could you briefly describe what you consider to be the greatest challenge facing professionals who work in alternative education programs?

15. Could you briefly describe the “typical” student who is most in need of alternative educational programming?

16. What is your definition of alternative education?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.