



### **Essential Understandings (EU's)**

are prerequisite skills and knowledge leading to mastery of the Access Point. EUs are scaffolds that disaggregate Access Points to help teachers provide instruction. They provide a variety of entry points where a student may begin to interact with grade level content and they serve as benchmarks along the continuum of learning to ensure progress toward the access points.

### **Curriculum Resource Guides**

were developed and validated by content experts and special educators with extensive experience in adapting the general curriculum for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The Curriculum Resource Guides describe how to teach the content to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, whereas the Content Modules describe the content (what is being taught) in general education. Together, the Content Modules and the Curriculum Resource Guides provide teachers with the necessary background knowledge to prepare students for the alternate assessment and offer examples of how the content is taught in general education, ideas for real life use, examples of universal design for learning, and ways to promote college and career readiness.

### **MASSIs and LASSIs**

offer intensive instruction needed to move toward mastery of the access points. These activities provide teaching scripts for teachers who may not have extensive training in systematic instruction.

### **Content Modules**

provide explanations and examples of the concepts contained in the Florida Standards that may be difficult to teach or unfamiliar to special education teachers. These modules can be used by teachers at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. They promote an understanding of the concepts so that a teacher can begin to plan how to teach the concepts to students and they provide teachers with potential adaptations and modifications to consider when designing materials and instruction.

### **Element Cards**

are available to assist educators in planning for instruction in multiple settings. Designed to promote understanding of how students move toward the Florida Standard. The Element Cards contain one or more access points, essential understandings, suggested instructional strategies, and suggested supports for students so that they can demonstrate what they know. The Element Cards are intended to assist teachers in developing instructional lessons to include all students and promote Universal Design for Learning. Each Element Card presents Essential Understandings, which define a range of skills based on grade-specific access points.

### **Course Descriptions**

define content standards for all subject areas in grades K-12. English Language Arts and Math Courses are aligned to the Florida Standards adopted in February 2014. Course Descriptions can be found at: [www.cpalms.org](http://www.cpalms.org)

### **Instructional Resource Guide**

serves as a source of information about evidence-based best practice in instruction for students with significant cognitive disabilities. These evidence-based practices in instruction include strategies such as: prompting, systematic instruction, and use of feedback and data. The guide further explains the use of these practices in the MASSIs and the LASSIs .

### **UDL Units**

are based on general education lessons that are universally designed for all students and walk the educator through the process of adapting materials and providing accommodations that assist emerging readers and communicators in the classroom. Each unit is made up of several lessons and a culminating activity, all of which provide examples for meeting the unique needs of students with significant cognitive disabilities.

### **Instructional Families**

are a visual representation of the areas of curricular emphasis within and across grade bands. The graphics facilitate perception of related content. Instructional Families are designed in three different views: distribution K-12, grade band (K-4, 5-8, HS) and instructional family. This is a useful tool for planning instruction for multi-grade classrooms.