

Extraordinary and Medically Complex Exemptions for Testing

Exemptions from Assessment

- Extraordinary Exemption
- Medically Complex Exemption

Extraordinary Exemption

- Pursuant to Section 1008.212, F.S., a student with a disability may be eligible for an extraordinary exemption from testing under certain circumstances, or if they have certain conditions.

Extraordinary Exemption

- “Circumstance” means a situation in which accommodations allowable for use on the statewide standardized assessment are not offered to a student during the current year’s assessment administration due to technological limitations in the testing administration program.
- This would lead to results that reflect the student’s impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills rather than the student’s achievement of the benchmarks.

Extraordinary Exemption

- “Condition” means an impairment, whether recently acquired or longstanding, which affects a student’s ability to communicate in modes deemed acceptable for statewide assessments, even if appropriate accommodations are provided.
- This would create a situation in which the results would reflect the student’s impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills rather than the student’s achievement of the benchmarks.

Extraordinary Exemption

- The IEP team, which must include the parent, may submit to the district school superintendent a written request for an extraordinary exemption at any time during the school year, **but no later than sixty (60) calendar days** before the first day of the administration window of the statewide standardized assessment for which the request is made.

Extraordinary Exemption

- A written description of the student's disabilities, including a specific description of the student's impaired sensory, manual or speaking skills
- Written documentation of the most recent evaluation data
- Written documentation, if available, of the most recent administration of statewide standardized assessments
- Written description of the circumstance's or condition's effect on the student's participation in statewide standardized assessments.

Extraordinary Exemption

- **Written evidence that**
 - the student has had the opportunity to learn the skills being tested;
 - the student has been provided appropriate instructional accommodations;
 - the student has had the opportunity to be assessed using the instructional accommodations on the student's IEP which are allowable in the administration of a statewide standardized assessment;
 - the student has a circumstance or condition as defined
- Also provide the name, address, and phone number of the student's parent

Medically Complex Exemptions

Medically Complex Exemptions

- A child with a medical complexity means a child who, based upon medical documentation from a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, is medically fragile and needs intensive care.

Medically Complex Exemptions

May be considered for a student who

- has a congenital or acquired multisystem disease;
- has a severe neurological or cognitive disorder with marked functional impairment;
- is dependent on technology for activities of daily living; and
- lacks the capacity to take or perform on an assessment.

Note: one or more of the above

Medically Complex Exemptions

- If the parent consents in writing, and the student's IEP team determines that the student should not be assessed based on medical documentation that confirms that the student meets the criteria of being medically complex, the parent may select one of the following assessment exemptions options:
 - (a) A one year exemption approved by the district superintendent
 - (b) A one, two or three year or permanent exemption approved by the Commissioner of Education

Medically Complex Exemptions

For all students approved by the district superintendent for a one year exemption, the following information must be reported to the Commissioner of Education beginning June 1, 2015, and each June 1st thereafter:

- The total number of students for whom a one year exemption has been granted by the superintendent
- For each student receiving an exemption, the student's name, grade level and the specific statewide standardized assessment(s) from which the student was exempted.

Medically Complex Exemptions

- For one, two or three year or permanent exemption approved by the Commissioner of Education, the following information must be submitted to the Commissioner of Education **no later than thirty (30) calendar days** before the first day of the administration window of the statewide standardized assessment for which the request is made.

Medically Complex Exemptions Documentation Requirements

- The student's name, grade level, and the statewide standardized assessment for which the exemption request is made;
- The name, address and phone number of the student's parent;
- Documentation of parental consent for the exemption;
- Documentation of the superintendent's approval of the exemption;
- Documentation that the IEP team considered and determined that the student meets the definition of medically complex as defined in (1) of this rule; and
- Medical documentation of the student's condition as determined by a physician licensed in accordance of chapter 458 or chapter 459, F.S.

Procedures for applying for Medically Complex or Extraordinary Exemption

- Gather all documentation requested in previous slides and designate if you are applying for the extraordinary or medically complex exemption
- Contact Mark Butler in ARM to submit paperwork
- ❖ **Reminder: Paperwork for extraordinary exemptions should not be submitted later than sixty (60) calendar days before the first day of the administration window of the statewide standardized assessment for which the request is made. Paperwork for the medically complex exemption should not be submitted later than (30) calendar days before the first day of the administration window of the statewide assessment for which the request is made.**

Sample letters and forms

- We will be uploading sample letters and forms on the SSPS Wiki and Assessment Central to utilize as a reference

Questions

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- Laura Drew in OSSPS- ldrew@pasco.k12.fl.us