

Policies

Westerly Public Schools

No. 2700

Graduation Waiver for State-Assessment Requirement 1 of 3

The Academic Requirements for High School Graduation Policy stipulates that “a waiver may be requested of the Superintendent of Schools in accord with current regulations...” Waivers to the Westerly Public Schools and statewide (or RIDE-approved alternate assessment) requirement to score at the ‘partially proficient’ level may be granted by the Superintendent of Schools (or designee) in those rare instances when the statewide assessment is not an appropriate way to measure proficiency. Students participating in the RI Alternate Assessment are not eligible for a waiver. Decisions of the Superintendent of Schools may be appealed in accord with the Appeals Policy.

Requests for a waiver will be accepted between the first day of the fourth quarter and June 1 of the year in which a student is scheduled to graduate. The following must occur prior to submission of a request for a waiver:

- Students must have made a serious attempt on the state assessment as juniors and at least once during their senior year.
- Students must have made a serious attempt on a RIDE-approved alternate assessment.
- Students must have actively and willingly participated in intervention activities.
- Students must have completed The Graduation Portfolio.
- Students must be on track to meet all course and credit requirements.

When requesting a waiver to the Westerly Public Schools and statewide assessment requirement, the student will compile evidence which he/she must present to the Superintendent of Schools (or designee). While school staff may support the student in the collection and organization of evidence, the compilation and presentation of evidence to the Superintendent of Schools (or designee) are ultimately the responsibility of the student. Students may invite family and school personnel during the presentation of evidence. No one piece or type of evidence is sufficient to demonstrate ‘partial proficiency’. The following table, while not exhaustive, provides examples of eligible and ineligible evidence.

Examples of Eligible Evidence Related to Grade 9-10 Math and/or Reading Standards	Examples of Ineligible Evidence
Passing Grades on Major Course Assessments	Passing Grades in Middle School Classes
Passing Grades in Required Courses	Letters of Recommendation
Passing Grades on Comprehensive Assessments Administered by Teacher Certified in Area	Attendance Records
Passing Grades on Performance Tasks	Number of Earned Credits
Passing Grades in Courses Taken Off-Site or Virtually	
Note 1: Accommodations may be provided so long as content is not modified.	
Note 2: Evidence will be maintained for one year; the Statewide Assessment Waiver Request Form will be maintained for five years.	

The 2011 Secondary Regulations describe the conditions under which a waiver from the state assessment graduation requirement may be granted.

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Graduation Waiver for State-Assessment Requirement 2 of 3

L-6-3.3. If a student is unable to demonstrate graduation readiness through the state assessment or Regents-approved testing alternative, the student may apply to his or her LEA for a waiver of the state assessment portion of the graduation requirements. LEAs are authorized to grant waivers from the state assessment requirement set forth in this section only in those rare cases in which the state assessment is not a valid means of determining the proficiency of individual students. Waiver eligibility will be considered only for those students for whom: (1) there is a preponderance of evidence of academic content mastery consistent with 6-3.0 of these regulations and (2) the student has completed the sequence of testing requirements set forth in this section.

Please contact the Superintendent of Schools for questions about this Protocol.

Adopted: March 5, 2014

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Westerly Public Schools No. 2700 Graduation Waiver for State-Assessment Requirement 3 of 3

Appendix: Waiver Summary Report

Waivers are intended only for those students for whom there is clear evidence that he or she has demonstrated the required level of proficiency to earn a diploma. This summary report must be kept for a period of five years from the date of decision and available for review.

STUDENT INFORMATION:

Name		Expected Graduation Date	
School		Date Waiver Submitted	
ID#		School Counselor	
DOB		Advisor	
Grade			

PROGRESS TOWARD DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS:

Courses	Progress	Courses	Progress	NECAP	Gr. 11 Score	Gr. 12 Score
4 Math		Other		Math		
4 English		Other		Reading		
3 History		Other		Performance Assessments	Progress/Completion	
3 Science		Other				
Other		XX Total Courses Required	[/XX]			

EVIDENCE OF STUDENT PROFICIENCY:

Evidence Documentation Name	Type of Evidence	
Progress Plan Participation		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Coursework	<input type="checkbox"/> Third Party Evidence
	<input type="checkbox"/> Performance/Diploma Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Coursework	<input type="checkbox"/> Third Party Evidence
	<input type="checkbox"/> Performance/Diploma Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Coursework	<input type="checkbox"/> Third Party Evidence
	<input type="checkbox"/> Performance/Diploma Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> Coursework	<input type="checkbox"/> Third Party Evidence
	<input type="checkbox"/> Performance/Diploma Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Waiver Approval:

Waiver Approved Waiver Rejected

Principal

Date

Superintendent

Date