# 615 TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS FOR IEPS, SECTION 504 PLANS, AND LEP STUDENTS

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the policy is to provide adequate opportunity for students identified as having individualized education program (IEP), Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504 (504) accommodation, or limited English proficiency (LEP) needs to meet the graduation requirements of basic skills testings and graduation-required assessments for diploma (GRAD) tests.

## II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. The school district will utilize the existing annual review of IEPs or 504 accommodation plans to review, on a case-by-case basis, the extent of student participation in basic skills testing and GRAD testing. For students subject to GRAD testing, the student's IEP or 504 accommodation plan must identify one of the following decisions for each subject area of GRAD:

1. the student is expected to achieve the statewide standard with or without testing accommodations resulting in a "pass" or "p" notation on the record when achieving a passing score; or

2. the student is expected to achieve the statewide standard at an individually modified level of difficulty, resulting in a "pass" or "p" notation on the record when achieving the modified level. A Minnesota alternative assessment must be used when an IEP team chooses to replace the GRAD. Adoption of modifications for a student must occur concurrently with the adoption of transition goals and objectives as required by Minn. Stat. § 125A.08(a)(1). The IEP or 504 accommodation plan must define an appropriate assessment of the statewide standard at a modified level of difficulty. Achievement of the individually modified standard shall be certified only through documented student performance of the defined assessment.

Students subject to GRAD testing also must be tested under standard conditions as specified by the developer of the test except those students whose IEP or 504 accommodation plan specifies other decisions consistent with the above stated requirements.

B. Students with LEP needs must be identified and accommodations made for students subject to basic skills testing. Students subject to GRAD testing are

required to pass the GRAD if they have been enrolled in any Minnesota school for at least four consecutive years. An English language learner (ELL) student who first enrolls in a Minnesota school in grade 9 or above who completes the coursework and any other state and district requirements to graduate within a four-year period is not required to pass the GRAD.

## III. DEFINITION OF TERMS

See the current "Procedures Manual for the Minnesota Assessments" which can be found on the Minnesota Department of Education's (MDE's) Minnesota Assessments, General Resources, website at: http://www.mnstateassessments.org/resources/Manuals/2011-12_Procedures_Manual.pdf.

## IV. GRANTING AND DOCUMENTING ACCOMMODATIONS, MODIFICATIONS, OR EXEMPTIONS FOR BASIC SKILLS AND GRAD TESTING

See Chapter 5 of the current "Procedures Manual for the Minnesota Assessments" which can be found on MDE's Minnesota Assessments, General Resources, website at: http://www.mnstateassessments.org/resources/Manuals/2011-12_Procedures_Manual.pdf.

## V. RECORDS

All test accommodations, modifications, or exemptions shall be reported to the School District Test Administrator. The School District Test Administrator shall be responsible for keeping a list of all such test accommodations, modifications, and exemptions for school district audit purposes. Testing results will be documented and reported.

***Legal References:***
Minn. Stat. § 120B.11 (School District Process)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.30 (Statewide Testing and Reporting System)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.08(a)(1) (Individualized Education Programs)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0010-3501.0180 (Graduation Standards – Mathematics and Reading)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0200-3501.0290 (Graduation Standards – Written Composition)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0505-3501.0655 (Academic Standards for Language Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0700-3501.0745 (Academic Standards for Mathematics)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0800-3501.0815 (Academic Standards for the Arts)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.0900-3501.0955 (Academic Standards in Science)
Minn. Rules Parts 3501.1000-3501.1190 (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma)

***Cross References:***
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 104 (School District Mission Statement)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 601 (School District Curriculum and

Instruction Goals)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 613 (Graduation Requirements)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 614 (School District Testing Plan and Procedure)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 616 (School District System Accountability)