

Request for Medical Exemption
(Signature Required)

1. Student Information

Date: _____

Student Name: _____

(Include middle initial and any alternate names)

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ (mm/ dd / yyyy)

Student State Identification Number (9 digits): ____ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Current Grade Level: (circle) 3 4 5 6 7 8 11

2. School Contact Information

Contact Name: _____ Position: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

District Name: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

3. For which assessment is the school requesting this exemption?

- SBA (Standards Based Assessment)
- NMAPA (New Mexico Alternate Performance Assessment)
- NMELPA (New Mexico English Language Proficiency Assessment)

4. What is the general nature of the medical emergency?

5. How does this emergency prevent the child from participating in statewide assessment?

6. Does the school have a note on file from a treating physician that documents this medical emergency?
(Required for approval)

Yes ____ No ____

7. For children with IEPs, has a written amendment to the IEP that references this medical emergency been agreed upon that verifies the team decided to seek this medical exemption?

Yes ____ No ____ NA (student does not receive special education.) ____

Superintendent or Principal (signature and date)

Upon receipt of this information, PED will provide written notification to the contacting school of the status of the requested medical exemption. For more information regarding use of medical exemptions, see the following page.

Participation of Students with Medical Conditions In New Mexico Statewide Assessments

All students, including students with disabilities and non- or limited-English proficient students, are expected to take part in the statewide assessment program in one of the following ways:

- participate in the general statewide assessment without accommodations;
- participate in the general statewide assessment with accommodations; or
- participate in the alternate assessment, available for students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) who meet specified criteria.

Students with very serious medical and mental conditions can and do participate successfully in statewide assessments. However, there are rare and unique situations in which a student is unable, for medical reasons, to participate in any part of the assessment. Such decisions must be made with the greatest care and restraint. Every student has the right to participate in a statewide assessment to show what the student knows and is able to do relative to state standards.

Medical Emergency In rare instances, a student may be unable to participate in any part of the assessment *due to a significant and documented medical or mental emergency*. Examples of significant medical emergency include: a serious car accident, hospitalization, severe trauma, mental health crisis that is dangerous to self or others, or placement in hospice care. Medical emergencies of this kind must be *identified and verified in writing by a licensed physician and kept on file by the local district*.

Special education law requires that each student who receives special education services must have a written IEP which documents how this student will participate in statewide assessment. If a student's special education team seeks a medical exemption, this decision must be documented in the IEP.

Students with acute, short term minor illnesses or injuries must participate in the assessment.

Medically Fragile with a Medical Emergency All medically fragile students are expected to participate in the statewide assessment unless a significant and documented medical emergency exists in addition to medical fragility. (See *Medical Emergency* above)

In those rare documented cases of medical emergency, where a medically fragile student cannot reasonably participate in any statewide assessment, the team must formally document this decision on the student's IEP or other relevant education plan.

Requests for Medical Exemption: A form for requesting a medical exemption may be downloaded and printed from the NMPED website at: <http://www.state.nm.ped>

Fax the completed form to: (505) 827-6689, to the attention of Birgit Anderson, or you may upload the completed form to the secure web server at SOAP (login required). Do not email completed forms. Upon receipt of this form NMPED will notify the contacting school regarding the status of the requested medical exemption.

Reporting: Non-participation in the Statewide Assessment for any eligible student must be reported. If a medical emergency exemption has been approved, the test administrator must bubble *Medical Emergency* on the biogrid *Test Completion Status* and return a blank answer document for the student. For auditing purposes, the district should maintain the medical exemption receipt sent to you by the NMPED, and physician note. A student for whom a medical exemption was approved will not count toward AYP determination for the school or district.

For questions, please contact Tom Dauphinee, PhD, Interim Supervisor
Assessment and Accountability
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