

Jordan School District Opt-out policy

Under [Utah state law](#), students can be opted out of state-mandated assessments. The state-mandated tests are:

- SAGE (Summative, Interim, and Formative)
- DLM (Dynamic Learning Maps)
- Civics Exam *Passage of the Civics exam is required for graduation
- General Financial Literacy Assessment
- WIDA ACCESS for English Language Learners
- ACT (11th grade students), ACT Plan (10th grade students), ACT Explore (8th or 9th grade students)
- DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy) Grades 1-3
- AAPPL (Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages) for Dual Immersion Language programs

What does it mean to opt out?

Opting out of a test means the student is not required to take that test and should be given meaningful work to do in lieu of the standardized assessment. Opting out of a test cannot negatively affect a student's class standing, course grade, or report card. However, standardized test scores are frequently used to determine placement in advanced courses/programs and to identify specific instructional needs of students. If a student is opted-out of testing, no score will exist to support these decisions. The parent/guardian will need to work closely with educators to ensure that the student has access to the instructional resources needed to be successful.

What can students do if opted out?

Students should participate in a meaningful alternate learning activity. Alternate activities should not be presented as incentives or disincentives to SAGE participation. Generally, the alternate activity should be completed in a location other than where students are being tested.

How do parents opt out?

Parents must submit annual written notice to opt out. Principals will talk with the parent(s) as needed to complete the opt-out acknowledgement form. The current form can be found [via this link](#).

How do I know who has opted out?

The school principal or designated administrator will let test coordinators know of new opt-out requests. The test coordinator is then responsible for marking the "parental exclusion" code in the appropriate system. Testing coordinators should also notify teachers of which students are excluded from testing. Testing coordinators should also notify Evaluation, Research, and Accountability of the opted out student via established Google doc procedures. Video tutorials on how to access and update the opt-out log are available here: <http://assessments.jordandistrict.org/testing-coordinators/>

Conclusion

Utah education law and policy evolve over time. We thank the teachers, administrators, and school staff who contribute to the ongoing conversation about what is best for our public education system. Thank you for your patience and understanding. Please let us know if we can be of service to you.

[Click here to access the full text of Utah Board Rule 277-406-6.](#)