



2018/2019 SMARTER BALANCED / WCAP PARENT REFUSAL

Benefits for Students Taking the State Assessment (SBA/MSP/EOC)

- ✓ The state assessments assess critical state standards, including higher-level thinking, communication, reasoning, problem solving, and application of knowledge and skills in new situations. Teachers and staff can gain information about students' progress toward meeting grade-level expectations (what students should know and be able to do) in the core academic areas of reading, writing, math, and science, and can plan instruction accordingly.
- ✓ By taking the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) in grades 3-8, students become familiar with the test and have several chances to get feedback on their performance, before taking the state assessment as a graduation requirement.
- ✓ Each student's state assessment performance provides a profile of the student's strengths and weak areas in each subject area tested.
- ✓ Parents and students can see student growth from year to year.
- ✓ Through a request to the state, parents can view their child's answers on their completed state assessment to gain a deeper understanding of how their child is progressing on state standards.
- ✓ Because the state assessment measures students' progress toward meeting standards, information regarding the performance of district groups of students can help district staff make decisions about the effectiveness of various instructional programs.

Benefits for Students Taking the WA-AIM (for students with significant cognitive disabilities)

- ✓ The student's growth on key tasks is documented two times a year, showing the student's progress toward state standards.
- ✓ The evidence submitted ensures that students with the most intensive disabilities have an opportunity to "show what they know" and to receive instruction at a level that is challenging and attainable.

Consequences When Students Do Not Take the State Assessment

- ✓ Students who do not pass the **high school** state assessment in the required subjects, or an approved alternative, will not obtain a high school diploma.
 - Classes of 2015 and 2016 – English Language Arts (ELA) and Math
 - Class of 2017 and beyond – ELA and Math EOC
- ✓ Students who do not attempt the High School state assessment at least once in a content area are not eligible to access alternative options in that content area.
- ✓ Teachers and staff lack full information about the instructional needs of students who do not take the state assessment, which could lead to some students not receiving all the instructional support they might need to be successful later in school.
- ✓ Students who do not take the SBA prior to Grade 10 will not have had the opportunity to practice and get feedback before taking the **high school** state assessment as a graduation requirement.

State Assessment Refusal Documentation Form

Please print the following information:

Student's Name _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

School _____ Student's Grade Level _____

Date of Assessment _____

As the parent/guardian of the above named student, I choose for my child to not participate in the Washington state assessment. I choose for him/her to not participate in:

- _____ The entire Smarter Balanced ELA (Reading and Writing) [grades 3 – 8 and 10]
- _____ The Smarter Balanced Math
- _____ The entire WA-AIM
- _____ WCA Science (grades 5th, 8th and 11th)
- _____ ELPA21 (for ELL students)

My reason for this decision is _____

I have read and understand the benefits and consequences listed on the back of this form. In particular, I understand that:

- ✓ The state assessments assess critical state standards, including higher-level thinking, communication, reasoning, problem solving, and application of knowledge and skills in new situations. Teachers gain information about students' progress toward meeting grade-level expectations (what students should know and be able to do) in the core academic areas of reading, writing, math, and science, and can plan instruction accordingly.
- ✓ If my child does not pass the **high school** state assessment in required subjects, or an approved alternative, my child will not be able to obtain a high school diploma.
 - Class of 2018 – ELA and Math
 - Class of 2019/2021 - SBA ELA or Math or Math EOC
 - Class of 2021 – SBAC ELA or Math and WCAS
- ✓ If my child does not attempt the **high school** state assessment at least once in each content area, my child will not be eligible to access alternative options in that content area.
- ✓ Practice on the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) at younger grades can help students show their best performance on the **high school** state assessments.
- ✓ If my child is an English Language Learner (ELL) but does not take the ELPA21, my child will not be eligible to receive services in this area.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date _____

School Representative: _____

This form is to be filed within the student's cumulative record located at the school building. The online system or the demographic page of all relevant test booklets must be marked REFUSED noting student and/or parent refusal.

Provide a copy of this signed form to the District Assessment Coordinator's office at the Administration building.