

Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA)**Assessment Exemption****2023-2024 School Year**

In order to ensure consistent policies across reporting systems, the Department of Education has established the following rules to determine whether students can be exempted from participation in one or more DeSSA assessments. Exemptions for DeSSA assessments provide an LEA with an opportunity to request a student not be included for state assessment testing and therefore, not be included in the participation rate; and allow students to be excluded from specific assessments and content areas.

Submitting Exemptions

- Use the DOE approved exemption forms to submit exemptions.
- All forms are available in LEA-specific folders in Schoology.
- Passwords for the Schoology folders will be distributed to DTCs via Helpdesk.
- DTCs are responsible for completing the exemption forms.
- Submit all exemptions by identified due dates.
- Medical exemptions must include an assurance by the DTC that documentation is on file.

Valid Exemptions

- Any student who is enrolled in a private out-of-state placement.
- Any student who is incarcerated in an adult prison.
- Any student with a medical exemption unable to test before the end of the window.
- Any student who has a logistical or technical reason and was unable to test. Examples: Vendor-related issues keep the student from testing before the end of the testing window; scheduled attempts to test a student placed at a service school.
- Any student enrolled in the last two calendar weeks of the test window. Homebound Alt students because paper/pencil is not available.

Invalid reasons for exemption

- Absence/Truancy
- Incorrect information provided
- Medical condition without an assurance of medical documentation
- Parent refusal
- Student is enrolled in a virtual academy
- Student is registered for the wrong assessment