

Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Exemption From Instruction
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Legal	1. 22 PA Code 4.4 2. 22 PA Code 11.7 3. Pol. 102 4. Pol. 217
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Authority

The Joint Operating Committee adopts **this** policy to **ensure** that parents/**guardians** have the right to have their children excused from specific instruction that conflicts with their religious beliefs.[\[1\]\[2\]](#)

Guidelines

The rights granted by this policy are granted to parents/**guardians** of students enrolled in the school **when** the students are under the age of eighteen (18) and to the students themselves when the student is eighteen (18) or over.

The school shall excuse any student from specific instruction, subject to the following conditions:

1. To assist the school in ensuring that the student is excused from the correct specific instruction, the request must be made in writing and must detail the specific instruction **from** which the student is to be excused.
2. The written request to be excused shall be sent by the parent/**guardian** or student to the Director or designee.

One **(1)** copy of the request shall be retained in the student's permanent school records, **one (1)** copy kept by the school **administration**, and **one (1)** copy submitted to the teacher from whose instruction the student is to be excused.

3. It shall not be the responsibility of the school or any of its **employees** to ensure that the **student** exercises his/her right to be excused in accordance with a parental request. It **shall be** the responsibility of the student to request permission to leave class when the specific instruction objected to is presented. When the **student** seeks to be excused, the teacher **shall** excuse the **student** if the teacher **or administrator** has a copy of the

written request and the written request adequately describes the **specific** instruction.

4. The written request must contain a statement that the specific instruction described conflicts with the religious beliefs of the student or of the parents/**guardians**.
5. The parent/**guardian** and/or student **may** request **suggested** replacement educational activities. The only permissible educational activity for this purpose shall be in the nature of replacement instruction that is consistent with the goals set for the course and that does not require the provision of any extra resources by the school.
6. The building **administrator** shall determine where the student shall report during the time the student is excused.
7. All students excused from specific instruction shall be required to achieve the **academic standards and competencies** established by the school **as** necessary for graduation **or completion of the course work**.^{[3][4]}

Last Modified by Terri Birchard on April 11, 2018