

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SECTION: 100 Programs

TITLE: Exemption from
Instruction

ADOPTED: October 19, 2017

REVISED:

105.2 EXEMPTION FROM INSTRUCTION

Purpose

The School District respects the rights of parents to have their children excused from specific instruction that conflicts with their religious beliefs. The School Reform Commission 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]

Definitions

Parent/guardian/surrogate under IDEA:

- A biological or adoptive parent of a child;
- A foster parent;
- A guardian authorized to act as the child's parent, or authorized by a court to make educational decisions for the child
- An individual acting as a parent in the place of the biological or adoptive parent with whom the child lives (including a grandparent, stepparent, or other relative) or a person who is legally responsible for the child's welfare); or
- A surrogate parent who has been appointed by an educational agency or an educational decision maker appointed by a court in accordance with IDEA.

Authority

The district shall excuse any student from specific instruction, upon written request of the parent/guardian or eligible student, in accordance with established administrative procedures.[2]

All students excused from specific instruction shall be required to achieve the learning outcomes established by the school and necessary for graduation through alternate means as determined by the district. [3]

Administrative guidelines accompany this policy and set forth the procedures for parental request to view the curriculum, academic standards and instructional materials

Attachment for policy #105.2: Procedures for Parental Request to View the Curriculum,
Academic Standards and Instructional Materials

Administrative Guidelines and related documents for parents may be found on the Office of
Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment website.

Legal References:

1. 22 PA Code 11.7
2. 22 PA Code 4.4
3. 22 PA Code 4.4