

# Oregon Virtual Academy

## Parent Request for Exemption from State Testing • 2015–16

### Science (5, 8, 11) / Extended Assessments / ELPA 21 / PSAT

(For Smarter Balance ELA and Math use the Smarter Balance Opt-Out Form)

*This form is for parents and guardians to use in applying for an exemption to standardized testing requirements other than the Smarter Balance ELA and Math. Its purpose is to enable the district to discharge its legal right and responsibility to evaluate an exemption request.*

*Disabilities and religious beliefs are the only bases on which an Oregon school district may approve an exemption. The disability exemption may be approved for students who have an IDEA identified disability that interferes with their ability to participate in standardized testing, even with accommodations made for their disability. The religious exemption may be approved for students whose sincerely held religious beliefs cause them to be opposed to a state required program, including state testing. Merely wishing to avoid testing, or a parent or student having a political, personal or sociological objection to testing that is not based on a sincerely held religious belief, does not qualify for an exemption.*

**Complete and sign this form and submit it to the ORVA Office by March 30, or 2 weeks before the test is administered, whichever is earlier.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please initial: \_\_\_\_ I request that my student be exempted from the indicated areas below for state testing for the 2015–16 school year.

**This exemption request includes the following tests administered in 2015–16 (choose all that apply):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Assessment: Science ( <i>grades 5, 8, and 11</i> )                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Assessment ( <i>for eligible students with disabilities in grades 3–8, 11</i> ) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English Language Proficiency (ELPA) ( <i>for eligible students in grades K–12</i> ) | <input type="checkbox"/> PSAT (National Merit Scholarship qualifying test) or ACT PLAN ( <i>high school</i> )     |

#### **REQUEST BASED ON DISABILITY**

- This request is to accommodate my student’s IDEA or Section 504 identified disability.**

In the area below, please address each of the following:

- Explain in your own words why you are requesting this exemption.
- Describe how your student’s IDEA or Section 504 identified disability interferes with his or her ability to participate in state tests.
- Explain why you believe there are no accommodations that would allow your student to participate.

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**REQUEST BASED ON RELIGIOUS BELIEFS**

**This request is to accommodate my student’s sincerely held religious beliefs.**

Please initial each statement:

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the purpose of the regulation’s exemption for religious beliefs is to accommodate families in circumstances when sincerely held religious beliefs conflict with a state-required program, including statewide tests. Religion, while broadly interpreted, usually is a comprehensive set of beliefs that concern ultimate and fundamental ideas about life, purpose and death. The term “religious beliefs” means religious, moral or ethical beliefs as to what is right and wrong that are sincerely held with the strength of traditional religious convictions. Merely wishing to avoid testing, or having political or social objections to testing not based on a sincerely held religious belief, do not meet the requirements for the exemption.

\_\_\_\_\_ My student has sincere religious beliefs against statewide assessments and I request an exemption from statewide tests for my student for the 2015–16 school year.

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit this completed form by March 30, 2016, or 2 weeks before the test is administered, whichever is earlier, to:**

**Oregon Virtual Academy  
400 Virginia Ave. Suite 210  
North Bend, OR 97459**