

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



JIM HORNE  
Commissioner of Education



## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

---

F. PHILIP HANDY, *Chairman*

T. WILLARD FAIR, *Vice Chairman*

### Members

SALLY BRADSHAW

LINDA J. EADS, ED.D.

CHARLES PATRICK GARCÍA

JULIA L. JOHNSON

WILLIAM L. PROCTOR, PH.D.

## Contact Persons

**Name:** Michele Polland  
**Email:** [Michele.Polland@fldoe.org](mailto:Michele.Polland@fldoe.org)  
**Phone:** 850/245-0475  
**Suncom:** 205-0475

**Name:** Evy Friend  
**Email:** [Evy.Friend@fldoe.org](mailto:Evy.Friend@fldoe.org)  
**Phone:** 850/245-0478  
**Suncom:** 205-0478

**DPS: 04-060**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District School Superintendents

**FROM:** Jim Warford

**DATE:** December 18, 2003

**SUBJECT:** 2003-2004 Waiver Form for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test

We are pleased to provide you with the attached *2003-2004 Waiver of Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Graduation Requirement for Students with Disabilities* form, revised December 2003. This form should be completed by the individual educational plan (IEP) team when determining whether or not a student with a disability should be waived from the requirement to achieve a passing score on the Grade 10 FCAT for graduation.

A draft version of this form was disseminated to Exceptional Student Education Directors at the Administrators' Management Meeting (AMM) in September. Feedback was received and incorporated into this final document.

JIM WARFORD  
K-12 Chancellor

District School Superintendents  
December 18, 2003  
Page Two

We would like to highlight the following changes that have been made to the 2003-2004 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) waiver form as compared to the 2002-2003 version.

- Page 1, paragraph 2: The addition of the following information, “Consistent with the provisions of section 1003.43(11)(a), Florida Statutes (F.S.), any senior who has not achieved a passing score on the FCAT must receive intensive remediation. Additional funds to support remediation activities have been provided to districts through their Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) grant. To help evaluate the effectiveness of such remediation and ensure each student has had every opportunity to pass the FCAT, the student must participate in the March administration of the FCAT during his/her senior year.”
- Page 2, paragraph 1: The individual educational plan (IEP) team must indicate if the student is a member of the 2003 or 2004 graduating class cohort.
- Page 4, item number 6: The revision of the question to allow for the IEP team to not complete the form in its entirety if the student has not demonstrated mastery of the Grade 10 Sunshine State Standards.
- Page 4, item number 7: This item has been revised by requiring the participation of the student in intensive remediation and documentation of the participation and performance of the student.
- Page 5, Section Five has been revised to add a section for the school administrator or designee to complete in addition to the section for the superintendent or designee.

If you have any questions regarding the FCAT waiver process or the use of the attached form, please direct them to the contact persons listed on the first page.

JW/efr

Attachment

cc: District Student Services Directors  
Exceptional Student Education Directors  
District Coordinators of Assessment