

CREATING  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR STUDENTS TO  
KEEP WYOMING  
STRONG



**JILLIAN BALOW**

Superintendent of Public Instruction

**DICKY SHANOR**

Chief of Staff

**SHELLEY HAMEL**

Chief Academic Officer

**KARI EAKINS**

Chief Policy Officer

**TRENT CARROLL**

Chief Operations Officer



**CHEYENNE OFFICE**

122 W. 25th St. Suite E200  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307-777-7675

**RIVERTON OFFICE**

320 West Main  
Riverton, WY 82501  
307-857-9250



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## MEMORANDUM NO. 2020-165

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
Accountability Directors

**FROM:** Kari Eakins, Chief Policy Officer

**DATE:** November 2, 2020

**SUBJECT:** 2020-21 WAEA Exception Form

## 2020-21 WAEA EXCEPTION FORM AVAILABLE NOW

The **form** for school districts to apply to have its schools exempt from requirements of the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act (WAEA) for the 2020-21 school year is now available. **Forms** must be submitted by November 13, 2020 in order for the State Board of Education (SBE) to grant exceptions during its November meeting.

Wyoming Statute 21-2-204(d)(vi) gives the SBE the authority to grant an exception to the state's accountability requirements for a school for one school year, when the school demonstrates that it was unable to administer the statewide assessment for good cause. The SBE has determined that the inability to administer the assessment in 2019-20 justifies granting exceptions to state accountability requirements for the 2020-21 school year because of the impact of not having prior year assessment data on several of the accountability indicators, including Growth and Equity. The SBE adopted emergency Chapter 3 rules in October in order to provide a streamlined way for districts to request this exception for the 2020-21 school year.

This exception to the state accountability requirements is the result of a recommendation of the Assessment Technical Advisory Committee that for the 2020-21 school year, Wyoming assess its students to the greatest

extent possible, but not make accountability determinations. Exceptions granted through this process do not waive federal assessment and accountability requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

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*For more information, contact Kari Eakins, Chief Policy Officer, at 307-777-2871 or [kari.eakins@wyo.gov](mailto:kari.eakins@wyo.gov).*