**Testing opt-out/refusal guide for: Wisconsin**

The following is a quick-reference guide for information on opting out or refusing tests in a specific state. We thank our supporters for assisting us in collecting these necessary details to encourage test refusals nationwide. If the reader feels that the information on this form is incomplete or inaccurate, please email unitedoptoutnational@gmail.com with additional details or corrections. Feel free to download and use this form as you see fit.

**Form completed by Meg Norris**

**Contact information (email)** **megnorris@mindspring.com**

**List of assessments**

WKCE - <http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/oea_parents>

 -grades 3-8 & 10

WAA-SwD - <http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/oea_parents>

SBAC (2014-15) <http://www.smarterbalanced.org>

 - given grades 3-11

 - this test is MUCH more difficult

**Special considerations for the above assessments**

High School Graduation Requirements –

<http://graduation.dpi.wi.gov>

Special Education and Parental Rights

<http://sped.dpi.wi.gov/sped_tm-specedtopics>

We recommend reading through the parental rights for parents with special education students and consider the implications for your child – could you include refusal to participate in the state test on the IEP?

**Procedures for opt-out/refusal**

**Parent request is all that is needed to opt out in Wisconsin. Be aware of possible changes in 2014-15 when SBAC is introduced.**

Under Wisconsin statute 118.30 Titled Pupil Assessment – Subparagraph 2b3-6

 “Upon the request of a pupil's parent or guardian, the school board shall excuse the pupil from taking an examination administered under sub. [(1m)](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/118.30%281m%29).”

Additionally, non-participation will not be held against the testing school (118.30 sub 5m)

“When determining the percentage of pupils participating in the program under s. [119.23](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/119.23) who performed at designated proficiency levels on the examinations administered as required under sub. [(1s)](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/118.30%281s%29), the department shall consider only the pupils participating in the program under s. [119.23](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/119.23) to whom the examinations were administered at each grade level, and shall exclude from consideration those pupils participating in the program under s. [119.23](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/119.23) who were excused from taking the examinations under sub. [(2) (b) 5.](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/statutes/118.30%282%29%28b%295.)”

[**http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/118/30**](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/118/30)

**Other Opt Out Possibilities**

Other options that have worked in other states include:

1. refusal for religious reasons (I am not sure what religious organization feels this way but I am sure there is one)

2. refusal to sign the internet agreement at the BEGINNING of the year (this will work best once PARCC is put in place and all testing moves to computers)

3. withdrawing the child before the test and re-enrolling them once the testing is complete.

I would NOT put it past any state to slip some sort of parental permission for testing into all the forms at the beginning of they year. BE AWARE!!

**Current Legislation**

**Urgency for opt-out/refusal**

This section includes current issues and policies specific to this state, namely school budget issues, influence of outside groups, elections, and other issues affecting children. Please explain why opting out of high-stakes testing is important to saving public education in this state.

**Sample language to include in opt-out/refusal**

This section includes sample phrases or language relevant to specific procedures in this state and/or a complete sample opt-out/refusal letter.

**Resources and organizations**

**State specific watch-list**

This final section contains a list of names, organizations, or other entities to track or otherwise know by name when scanning local media. These are individuals and organizations that potentially undermine public education in this state and can include entities from outside the state that are influencing local affairs.

**Additional or miscellaneous information**

Anything else we should know about education reform in your state?