

PARENT INFORMATION ABOUT TESTING FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 3-9, 2011

Testing for 2011 will take place during the weeks of April 4-8 and 11-15, 2011

Beginning September 15th 2010 watch the website (<http://www.arhomeschooltesting.org>) for more information

Meeting the testing requirement of the Arkansas Home School Law can be done in one of seven ways, which are listed below.

1. Student takes the test. There are three options for students to test.
 - a. Test at one of the 47 State Sponsored sites. (Sites will be in the same cities as 2010, testing may be in a different facility)
 - (i) Sites will be listed in the test information packet sent to parents and on the website.
 - (ii) **No charge to parents**
 - b. Test with an outside testing agency (**This option will have an expense of \$25-\$50 per child, depending on the agency**) **Fall, Mid-Year, Spring Testing**
 - c. Request that child/children be tested with my approved home school group (**There is no fee paid to the state**)
2. Student does not take the test. Under the following circumstances, students need not test.
 - a. Student is no longer home schooled. If this is the case, you must notify your school district and notify the Home School Office at the Department of Education
 - b. Special needs student may be granted permanent exemption from home school testing.
 - (i) Requires that parent submit at least one of the following with the request.
 - (a) Individual Education Plan (IEP) from public or private school supporting your request.
 - (b) Statement from a medical or psychological professional supporting your request.
 - (c) Parent has previously received a letter from the State Coordinator that their child/children has/have been permanently exempt from home school testing. **No documentation is necessary since AHSTO has this information on file.**
 - (ii) Request that child/children be excused from testing for 2011. (This option is for 2011 only and is not permanent.)
 - (i) Request requires documentation to be submitted with request. **Documentation sources are the same sources as stated for permanent exemption, i.e., IEP, doctor's statement.**
 - (ii) Child/children was/were exempt from testing in 2010, but not permanently and parents wish the exemption to apply again for 2010. (**Extension from 2010 requires documentation from the same sources as stated for permanent exemption, i.e., IEP, doctor's statement.**)
 - c.) Request that child/children be excused from testing for 2011. (This option is for 2011 only and is not permanent.)
 - (i) Request requires documentation to be submitted with request. **Documentation sources are the same sources as stated for permanent exemption, i.e., IEP, doctor's statement.**
 - (ii) Child/children was/were exempt from testing in 2010, but not permanently and parents wish the exemption to apply again for 2010. (**Extension from 2010 requires documentation from the same sources as stated for permanent exemption, i.e., IEP, doctor's statement.**)

For students with special needs who will be testing, parents may request test modification. This can be handled in several ways.

1. If this is a new request, documentation such as IEP, medical or psychological professional supporting the request must be attached.
2. If the child/children was/were granted modifications in 2010 and parent is requesting the same for 2011. **No documentation is necessary since AHSTO arranged for the testing in 2010.** You will be contacted regarding scheduling the test.
3. Parent must bring child to a test site for one-on-one, or small group testing
4. **No charge for testing**

The above is for information only and requires no action at the time of reading. It is designed to show parents how they can meet the home school testing law. If parents want more information about any option, they are encouraged to send an email to the Home School Testing Office (arhomeschooltesting@afsc.k12.ar.us), or call 501-354-3136. Be specific about which option the information is being requested.

Individual parent test information packets will be mailed during the last week of January and first week of February, 2011. If not received by February 15, please contact the Arkansas Home School Testing Office.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PARENTS MAKE COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS BEFORE RELEASING THEM