

NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS
HIGH SCHOOL

Alternative Demonstration of Competency Implementation Waiver Policy

New Mexico School for the Arts (the "School"), is a New Mexico public, statewide, residential, state chartered high school for students with exceptional promise in the arts.

According to New Mexico Public Education Department's (NMPED) policy*, under certain circumstances students may demonstrate competency for meeting graduation requirements by using an Alternative Demonstration of Competency (ADC). According to (NMPED) policy, a student must have exhausted a certain number of assessment attempts. However, if a student has not exhausted all attempts he or she may apply for a waiver to use ADC in order to meet graduation requirements. This policy describes how a student can apply for that waiver.

At the request of a student, parent, or guardian, or decision of school administration, the Head of School or designee will complete and submit an *Alternative Demonstration of Competency (ADC) Implementation Application* (for waiver) to the New Mexico Public Education Department.

The Head of School will not submit a request for waiver when a student has refused to take the state mandated 11th grade statewide assessment. State law does not provide for a parent and/or student to "opt-out" of that assessment.

Parents should be aware that the New Mexico Public Education Department's *Alternative Demonstration of Competency (ADC) Implementation Application* (for waiver) states: "An ADC Implementation application is not intended to allow students to opt out of state testing and will not be approved without valid rationale."

New Mexico School for the Arts will follow the New Mexico Public Education Department waiver decision, which is made by the Secretary of Education, in determining whether to implement ADC in order for a student to be granted a New Mexico Diploma of Excellence.

This Alternative Demonstration of Competency Implementation Waiver Policy was adopted by resolution of the Governing Council of the School, effective as of September 14, 2016.

NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

ATTEST;



TRINA RAPER, Chair
of the Governing Council



PAULA TACKETT, Secretary
of the Governing Council

*Reference: NMPED 2016-2017 ADC Manual: New Mexico Alternative Demonstration of Competency