

HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT WAIVER PROGRAM

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

WHERE PARENTS CAN FIND HELP

Some students in the class of 2009 will be eligible for a high school diploma without passing all of the High School Assessments (HSAs).

In order to be eligible for a waiver, your child must:

- 1) Complete all other graduation requirements, such as getting course credits, meeting attendance requirements, service learning hours, and any other requirements;
- 2) Take (but not pass) all four High School Assessments;
- 3) Take advantage of all offered interventions, including Bridge projects;
- 4) Fail one or more of the HSAs and not meet the HSA requirement through the combined score of 1602 or the Bridge Plan.

Also, your child must meet any one of the following circumstances to be eligible for the waiver:

- 1) A problem with local scheduling decisions;
- 2) Late arrangement of courses (such as the school scheduling Government too late in a student's high school career);
- 3) A problem with testing decisions;
- 4) Inadequate intervention opportunities;
- 5) Special circumstances (such as a recent death in the immediate family or an extended illness);
- 6) Your child moved to the United States in his or her junior or senior year and is literate in his or her native language but not in English.

If you and your child have received a letter saying that your child may be eligible for the waiver or if you think your child should be eligible for the waiver, and you have questions or concerns, you may contact any of the following organizations for assistance:

Sarah Morgan
Legal Aid Bureau
(410) 951-7729

Maureen van Stone
Project HEAL at Kennedy Krieger Institute
(443) 923-4416

Parents' Place of Maryland
410) 768-9100

Law Offices of Mark B. Martin, P.A.
(410) 779-7770

Selene Almazan
Maryland Coalition for Inclusive
Education
(410) 859-5400

Maryland Disability Law Center
(410) 727-6352

