

SYOSSET CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

GUIDELINES FOR WORLD LANGUAGE EXEMPT STATUS

BACKGROUND

All students entering the 9th grade are required to complete 1 unit of credit in a World Language in order to be eligible for a New York State Regents Diploma. For an Advanced Regents Diploma, students must complete a 3-credit sequence (Checkpoint B level of proficiency) and a **Checkpoint B Exam**, or complete a 5-unit sequence in Business, Art or Music.

According to the guidelines established by the New York State Education Department, a student *may* be exempted from the language requirement if his/her disability significantly interferes with the ability to learn a World Language. ***A reason or explanation for the exemption must be included on the IEP.*** Students who are language exempt are still eligible for a Regents Diploma or a Regents Diploma of Advanced Designation. Students must replace the language credit with other credits in order to fulfill their graduation requirements. The conditions for exemption from the World Language requirement will be reviewed based on evaluative data, teacher reports, anecdotal information and input from school staff and parents.

GUIDELINES

The following guidelines have been established in order to qualify students for exemption status:

1. Each student will be evaluated on an individual basis to determine if a student is eligible for world language exemption.
2. The severity of the disability must be considered when an exemption from the world language requirement is given. The student's disability must specifically and severely impair receptive and/or expressive language skills in order to be exempted from the second language requirement.
3. In order to be considered for such an exemption, a student should meet one or more of the following conditions that is proven to impact upon the student's performance:
 - A. An IQ of less than 75 and/or
 - B. Receptive and/or expressive language skills below the 10thile
 - C. Reading comprehension and/or decoding scores below the 10thile
 - D. Moderate to severe hearing impairment
 - E. A diagnosed Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD)
4. The long-range goals of the individual student must be given consideration when an exemption from this requirement is given. Parents **MUST** be made aware that many colleges do not honor this exemption when considering a student's application and may require the student to fulfill the language requirement at the college level. In addition, if the student changes college course of study/major, a language requirement may be required for that particular major.