

**Instruction**

**Exemption From Instruction**

**Substance Abuse**

Instruction regarding substance abuse prevention and the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to understand and avoid the effects of alcohol, of nicotine or tobacco and of drugs, as defined in subdivision (13) of C.G.S. section 21a-240, on health, character, citizenship, personality development is required by C.G.S. section 10-16b and 10-19 for all students annually and students can not be exempted.

**Religious**

If the religious belief and/or teachings of a student or his/her parents or guardian are contrary to the content of a school subject, or to any part of a school activity, the student **may** be exempted from participation in that conflicting portion of the subject or activity. To receive such an exemption, the parent or guardian must present a written request for exemption for approval by the principal stating the conflict involved.

**Family Life Education**

The Board shall not require any student to participate in a family life program, as defined in C.G.S. Section 10-16c that may be offered by the Board.

**Bilingual Education**

The parent or legal guardian of any child eligible for a program of bilingual education may notify the Board, in writing that he/she wishes the child to be exempt from the program and the Board shall so exempt the child.

**AIDS Instruction**

Currently there is no cure for those infected with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), but the Board of Education believes that education is the best way to prevent the spread of AIDS. By learning the facts about AIDS, students will be able to make decisions that will keep them healthy and perhaps save their lives.

Appropriate instruction on AIDS and avoiding HIV infection shall be presented in the instructional program at all grade levels.

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**Instruction**

**Exemption From Instruction** (continued)

**AIDS Instruction** (continued)

A student will be exempted from instruction on AIDS upon receipt of a written request for exemption from his/her parent or guardian.

**Dissection of Animals**

A student will be exempted from Dissection of Animals upon receipt of a written request for exemption from his/her parent or guardian.

Exemptions from required instruction do not excuse a student from the total semester hours required for graduation.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-16b Prescribed courses of study.

10-16e Students not required to participate in family life education programs.

10-17f Required bilingual education. Adoption of Regulations. Submission of Plan.

10-18c Firearm safety program. Exemption from participation.

10-19 Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Training of personnel.