

CIVICS EXAM for High School Graduation

NRS 389.009/NV SB322 | 2017 | 79th Legislature

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Civics Exam under SB 322/NRS 389.009?

Under NRS 389.009, Nevada high school students are required to participate in a civics examination as a condition of graduation. Students only need to take the test one time and there is no minimum required achievement level.

- Each district or high school must adhere to NRS guidelines in the development of the examination, including a minimum of 50 items using questions from the civics portion of the U.S. naturalization test.
- Students may practice for the exam using study materials from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Go to > <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/>
- Administration procedures should ensure equitable access and valid results. **Exams must be proctored** by personnel trained in test administration and test security.

Who is required to take this exam?

Beginning with the graduating class of 2020 and with limited exceptions, **no student may receive a diploma without having taken the civics exam.**

State Seal of Civics Program – Students pursuing the *State Seal of Civics* must achieve a **minimum score of 90%** on the local approved civics examination. Ref: [NRS 388.5935](#) (SB 194, June 2021)

How are the results reported?

NRS 389.009 stipulates that the score from the civics exam must be incorporated into the grade for the course in which the examination is administered. There is no minimum score required for graduation and teachers have discretion in allowing the civics exam to be retaken for a higher score.

- Results from the civics exam will be uploaded to the Assessment tab in Infinite Campus under the test name, "Civics-High School Graduation".
- Schools will use civics exam results reported in Infinite Campus to validate transcripts, diploma status, and state seal eligibility.

May students be exempt from taking the Civics Exam?

The School Principal or a designated Assistant Principal at the school may authorize a limited number of waivers for qualifying students, not to exceed 10% of students in a graduating class.

- In accordance with [NRS 389.009](#),

(4) A pupil **may** receive a waiver from the [civics] examination administered pursuant to subsection 1 if:

- (a*) The pupil is a **pupil with a disability*** and the waiver is in accordance with his or her individualized education program;
- (b*) The pupil is identified as an **English learner*** and the public high school is **unable to offer the examination in the language** which would be most likely to provide accurate results for the pupil; or
- (c) The principal or administrator of the public high school determines that the pupil has **completed all other academic requirements** to receive a certificate or diploma of graduation and has **shown good cause** for a waiver.

*(a) severely impacted student in Special Education program, (b) new in country 1-2 years student in EL program

- Requests to exempt a student from taking the Civics Exam must be authorized by the site administrator (principal or designated AP). Submit requests to Assessment Support and indicate the reason (a, b, or c) for the waiver.