

Form C1

Request for Waiver as Provided in

# Special Education Regulations 603 CMR 28.03(5):

Special Education Parent Advisory Councils

**School District: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Proposed Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Prior to implementing an alternative compliance model, the district must receive approval from The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education through an Alternative Compliance Waiver application filed pursuant to *603 CMR 28.03(5).* Use this form to request a waiver and attach additional pages as needed to respond fully to the information items below.

Please attach a separate page with your responses to each item below.

**For all waiver applications, districts must:**

* Attach the completed Cover Page and Form C 1 with the application.
* Provide a descriptive summary of the district’s *substantial efforts* to establish a SEPAC.

Attach supporting evidence of these efforts. (Evidence may include copies of promotional flyers, website postings, emails, etc.)

* Submit evidence of how the parent community was consulted regarding this waiver application.
* Identify specific annual steps that will show how the district will maintain and monitor the effectiveness of its methodology.
* Provide a description of the steps the district will take in order to continue soliciting SEPAC membership to create a viable SEPAC.

**The alternative compliance waiver** will be in effect for three years; however, individual districts are required to continue to solicit SEPAC membership in the beginning of each school year.

**Please indicate your option below. Attach your response on additional pages.**

* **Option 1:**

**Regional SEPAC:** Districts may work with other districts or through an Educational Collaborative to establish a regional SEPAC. Each regional SEPAC must have, at a minimum, a representative from each participating district. The participating districts must comply with the Massachusetts special education laws and regulations pertaining to SEPACs.

**If applying for a Regional SEPAC, districts must, in addition to the requirements for all waiver requests:**

* Identify the participating districts.
* Submit evidence of each district’s agreement to collaborate. (Such as a statement from the district Superintendent)
* **Option 2:**

Districts may annually provide opportunities for parents of students with disabilities to participate in at least three district level activities and trainings specifically designed for parents of students with disabilities **including at least one workshop, in collaboration with the parent advisory council, on the rights of students and their parents and guardians under the state and federal special education laws.** Districts should document these opportunities and develop a process for monitoring the effectiveness of the activity. The monitoring process should include a method for collecting feedback from participating parents. This feedback should be used to develop meaningful activities for parents in an effort to increase interest and membership in a SEPAC.