

## Exemption Reason Codes for the Kindergarten Individual Developmental Survey

ISBE has established **KIDS Student Exemption Reason Codes** to ensure that the final Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) report most accurately reflects children's developmental abilities upon entry to kindergarten. These codes may be applied in situations in which teachers are unable to complete the KIDS assessment for a specific student. Use of such codes may affect district participation rates (positively or negatively), depending on the reason for non-completion. The general rule is that a minimum of 30 days of observation is necessary to effectively and accurately rate student development.

**The implementation of KIDS at the beginning of kindergarten is now required in statute.** Full text of the law can be found at [Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-10](#). Districts are required to submit appropriate KIDS student exemptions for any kindergarten students not rated on the current requirement of 14 measures. Backup documentation and verification will need to be submitted along with the KIDS Student Exemption Spreadsheet; district participation rates WILL BE negatively impacted in those cases in which districts DO NOT provide the required, appropriate documentation and verification.

Code	Value	Definition
01*	Medically Exempt	Student was: (a) Hospitalized because of medical emergencies or procedures (e.g., because of a motor vehicle or other type of accident, surgery, psychiatric emergency) for 11 days or more during the observation phase of the assessment; or (b) Participating in residential programs that provide psychological treatment or treatment for drug or alcohol abuse for 11 days or more during the observation phase of the assessment.
02*	Homebound	Student was homebound for 11 days or more during the observation phase of the assessment, and it was not feasible or appropriate for the student to be observed due to their medical condition.
04*	Out of State/Country	Student was residing in or attending a facility located out of state or out of country for 11 days or more during the observation phase of the assessment.
05*	Not Enrolled	Student was enrolled for fewer than 30 days during the observation phase of the assessment.
06*	Not in Valid Grade or Course	Student was erroneously classified for 11 days or more during the observation phase of the assessment as being in a grade/course in which KIDS is implemented.
07*	Transferred Prior to Completion of Observations and Assessment	Student transferred out (exited) on or before the 30th day of attendance, prior to the end of the assessment observation phase. District participation rate will not be negatively impacted. Students who transferred out after the 30 <sup>th</sup> day of attendance will negatively impact participation rate. Teacher at receiving school may be responsible for completing observation, gathering evidence, and entering ratings for the student.
08*	Transferred In Too Late During the Observation/Administration of the Assessment	Student transferred in (enrolled) 11 or more days after the commencement of the assessment observation phase. District participation rate will not be negatively impacted. Teacher at previous school may have started or completed assessment. Students who transferred in prior to the 11 <sup>th</sup> day of attendance will negatively impact district participation rates.

\* KIDS Student Exemption Reason Codes exempt students from KIDS participation and are beyond district control; student(s) exempted for these reasons should not negatively impact the district participation rate.

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09*	Deceased	Student died prior to observational assessment or during the observational assessment.
10	Absent During Assessment Observation Phase	Participation credit is negatively impacted by Reason No Valid Test Attempt (RNVTA). Student should have been assessed/observed and rated on all 14 state-required measures; other definitions do not apply.
15	Refusal but Present to be Observed	Teacher attempted to collect observational evidence, but student refused to engage in daily activities and schedule.
19	Administrative Issues	Participation credit is negatively impacted by this RNVTA. Include written explanation from district administration.
20	Teacher Did Not Complete the Required KIDS Implementation Training	Teacher did not complete the required KIDS implementation training in the allotted time. Teacher will be required to complete the required KIDS training when the training modules reopens.
34	Reserved for Internal Use	Enrollment or Course Assignment added after testing rating period window closed, but student was never tested/observed/rated.
40*	Reserved for students with <b>the most significant cognitive disabilities</b> , <i>specifically</i> exempted from KIDS assessment via their Individualized Education Program (IEP)	There is an exemption that can be used in the case of a student with an IEP that specifically indicates they are exempt from the KIDS assessment, per <a href="#">KIDS Participation or Exemption Guidance for Children with Special Needs</a> : <i>“Exempt status for the KIDS assessment is intended for students with the most significant disabilities. These students have functioning in any subset area well below average, typically associated with functioning levels below 24 months of age.”</i> Students functioning below the 24-month level of development in one or two developmental areas may be rated on one or two subsets, as appropriate.

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