

MEMO:

Revisions to the Pledge – COC, page 21

Patriotic Programs: Rules

F.S. 1003.44 requires that the pledge of allegiance to the flag be recited at the beginning of the day in each public elementary, middle, and high school in the state. The pledge shall be rendered by students standing and placing their right hand over their heart. When the pledge is given or the national anthem is played, all civilians (including students) must show full respect to the flag by standing at attention, men removing headdress, except when the headdress is worn for religious purposes. Schools must post in a conspicuous place a notice stating the students' right not to stand or recite the Pledge to the Flag {F. S. § 1003.44(1)}. ~~Upon written request from his or her parent, a student must be excused from reciting the pledge.~~ A school cannot discipline a student for failing to stand and/or pledge; however, a school may issue disciplinary action if a student disrupts the Pledge.