

Fall 2009 Semester Exam Exemption Procedures

Semester exam exemptions will be offered during the fall and spring semesters for the 2009 - 2010 school year. Below are exemption procedures for *Fall Semester*. **Exemption procedures for 2009-2010 have been adjusted in response to expected flu outbreak. Procedures are reviewed and published annually.**

Semester exam exemptions will be offered for students who have met the state's 90% attendance requirement, which means they must have enrolled **on or before Sept. 4, 2009**. If a student has not been in attendance in any school and enrolls after the above date, he/she is not eligible for first semester credit and exemptions unless he/she completes the requirements established by the campus attendance committee. For those students enrolling from other districts/states who have previously attended a school, their attendance for this year will be considered in determining eligibility. If more than three days of school have been missed for absence and/or moving, the student will not be eligible for fall semester exemptions.

Students may earn exemption status by reaching the following standards during the first semester:

- meet the district's grade and attendance standards for the **1st, 2nd, and 3rd** six-weeks and application requirements (see next section);
- meet the state's 90% attendance requirement [Fall semester = 8 absences]. Students not meeting the 90% requirement may request a review by the Campus Extenuating Circumstances Committee.
- have NO conduct grade of U in any class;
- have no discipline infractions that lead to **more than two, three-hour after-school detentions** (or the equivalent), or **more than one Saturday Detention**, or **any ISS or higher consequences**;
- have passed the corresponding part of the most recent TAKS test as it applies to each grade level (fall semester: TAKS scores from Spring 2009 will be used; Spring semester will be based on Spring 2010 scores if they arrive in time for consideration); for example, a student who did not meet the standard on TAKS math in **spring 2009** cannot be exempt from the fall semester exam of his/her math course; however this student can be exempt from his/her English exam if other requirements are met.
- owe no fines or fees.

District grade, attendance and application requirements for earning exemption status:

- Course average of A (90 – 100) with no more than 8** absences**
- Course average of B (80 – 89) with no more than 7** absences**
- Course average of C (75 – 79) with no more than 6** absences**

**** This total includes an additional 5 days of allowed absence for illness documented by parent note/phone call or health care provider. The added days are in response to current health advisories regarding flu outbreak.**

- A student may not exempt a class in which he/she has an N in conduct
- For exemption purposes, three tardies to a class will equal one absence
- Classes are independent of one another for attendance and grades
- Students must meet campus requirements related to submission deadlines, verification procedures etc. for securing exemptions.
- Ninth grade students may exempt one exam*
- Tenth grade students may exempt two exams*
- Eleventh grade students may exempt three exams*
- Senior students may exempt three exams during the fall semester and all exams during the spring semester*

***With the exception of seniors, students cannot exempt the same class both semesters. In other words, spring semester exam exemption class must be different than the fall semester class, except for seniors.**

NOTE: HCCS dual-credit courses CANNOT be exempted.

▶▶▶ A student who meets all requirements except the attendance requirement may apply for an exception consideration of 1 – 2 additional absences if the student believes these resulted from extenuating circumstances. See the grade level principal for the application. ◀◀◀