Final Exam Exemption Policy 2026-2027

Students will take midterms or final exams after each eighteen-week grading period. Students are only eligible for exemptions from final exams, not midterm exams. A midterm is an exam taken in December for a 36-week course. A final exam is taken in December for an 18-week (half-credit) course or in May for a 36-week course. For example, Health is an 18-week (half-credit) course; therefore, all fall and spring semester students are eligible for final exam exemptions. Forensic Science is a 36-week course; students can only be exempt from the final exam in May. Students will be granted a final exam exemption once they **attend the entire class during the final exam period.** Failure to attend and stay the whole period will result in a zero or an incomplete for that course.

To qualify for an exemption on final exams, the student must meet the following criteria:

18- week Courses (half-credit):

Average of 85 or better with only two absences + enrolled in the course within the first 3 weeks.

Average of 90 or better with only three absences + enrolled in the course within the first 3 weeks.

36-week Course (year-long course):

Average of 85 or better for the spring semester, with only four cumulative absences for the year + enrolled in the course within the first 3 weeks.

Average of 90 or better for the spring semester, with only five cumulative absences for the year + enrolled in the course within the first 3 weeks.

How to count absences:

- **Absences that count against exemptions:** unexcused, pre-approved absences(excused), DOCs, hospital stays, and APC(Absent with Parent Call)
- **Absences that DO NOT Count against exemptions:** School field trips, athletic events, UIL events, HCPs (healthcare provider - student attended school part of the day), PREs (present), GLOs (grade level office), ECLs (election clerk), CTZs (citizenship), NATs (naturalization), CVs (up to two College Visits) and religious holidays.

What happens if academic dishonesty has been proven on Major Grades?

- **First offense:** Students will receive a zero and they will NOT be eligible for an exemption in that class.
- **Second (or more) offenses:** Students will ALSO be assigned ISS, resulting in NO exemptions in any class.

What happens if a student is assigned ISS, DAEP, or OSS at any time during the school year?

- Students who have served time in ISS, DAEP, or OSS are not eligible for exam exemptions.