

SEMESTER EXAM EXEMPTION POLICY

The Goal for this policy is to improve attendance rate for grades 6th – 12th to 98%. This policy began for the 2003-2004 school year.

Students must maintain an average of 85 in each class for semester exam exemption in that class for that semester. New students enrolling during the semester will be included in the exam exemption policy. Grades, attendance and discipline will be based upon the information from student's previous school. Students may be exempt from a subject if they pass the Spring TAKS Test corresponding to that subject, provided all exemption rules are met and the student has a 70 or higher semester average in that subject and is currently passing the final six weeks. **The yearly average must also be a 70 or higher for a student to qualify to be exempt during the spring semester exams.**

Students cannot have more than 3 absences per class. Absence for any part of the day counts as an absence in regards to this policy. After receiving the 4th absence in any one class, the student becomes ineligible from ALL semester exam exemptions for that semester. New students enrolling during the semester will be included in the exam exemption policy. Grades, attendance and discipline will be based upon the information from the student's previous school.

"E" days (school related absence) will not be counted as an absence. "M" days will not be counted as an absence but the student must be in class a portion of that day. **Medical absences will only be recorded as "M" days if the student brings a medical note from the doctor office within 3 days from the absence. Otherwise, the absence does not qualify toward the exam exemption for that semester.** Absences incurred due to overnight hospitalization will not affect students' eligibility towards exemptions. Documentation from the hospital or doctor's office is required.

The District will follow local policy regarding tardies and if the student qualifies for a Saturday school during a semester, the student will not be exempt from any of the semester exams for that semester.

A student will not qualify for semester exam exemption if a student receives more than 3 discipline referrals on record. The following will automatically disqualify the student from semester exam exemptions:

- Suspension
- Disciplinary Alternative Education Placement (DAEP)
- Saturday School Assignment