

NEISD Semester Exam Exemption Guidelines – 2007-08

Semester exam exemptions will allow all high school students with good attendance, behavior, and academic performance to exempt up to three semester exams in any subject for each semester. Semester exam exemption guidelines will apply to **all** high school students who meet the following criteria:

Course Semester Grade Average	Number of Absences Per Course	Number of Tardies Per Course
95 or above	3 or fewer	3 or fewer
90-94	2 or fewer	2 or fewer
85-89	1 or fewer	1 or fewer
80-84	0	0

No exam exemptions will be allowed if:

- the course to be exempted is a Pre-AP or AP course (no exemption for first semester only; students may exempt these courses in Semester 2 since AP testing will have occurred),
- the student has received a “U” in conduct for the exempting course during the semester,
- the student has received a “No Credit” in any course for the semester,
- the student has been suspended off-campus or sent to an off-campus alternative setting in that semester, and/or
- the student has failed to turn in the **NEISD Semester Exam Exemption Form** by the deadline – 4:30 p.m. on December 21, 2007 for Semester 1, and 4:30 p.m. on May 16, 2008 for Semester 2.

Please note that semester exam exemptions shall be revoked if a student fails to meet any of the criteria after the exemption form has been turned in and approved by the administrator.

With improved student attendance, we anticipate improved student achievement. The rationale for not exempting Pre-AP and AP exams for the first semester is to better prepare those students for the AP exams given in May. The No Credit and disciplinary requirements are to prevent students from targeting certain courses for good attendance and ignoring others. The criteria requires students to take some semester exams while still offering exemptions at all grade levels as incentives to come to school and learn.

A student and/or his/her parents/guardians, who feel that an exemption has been unfairly denied, may appeal by completing an **Appeal of Denied Exam Exemption Form** and turning it in to the principal’s office within 3 school days of the **NEISD Semester Exam Exemption Form** deadline (January 9, 2008 and May 21, 2008). The principal will approve or deny the appeal within three school days. An appeal of the principal’s decision may be made according to district policy FNG (LOCAL), beginning at Level Two.

If you have any questions, please contact Kay Woltersdorf, assistant principal.