

## **Frequently Asked Questions about the Final Exam Exemption Incentive**

### **How do I qualify to be exempt from my final exams?**

A student must have an A in a class as defined by 90%, the teacher is participating in the exemption incentive, has no major discipline; defined as no more than 4 detentions, no Saturday Campus, no ISS or OSS during the semester, no fees or fines including library fines, and has completed a final exam exemption application with parent signature by the deadline (no exceptions) students may qualify for the exemption incentive.

### **How do I qualify to not be on campus during an exempted final?**

96% attendance and no failing grades as well as all other criteria.

### **Why does the absences count against A+ status?**

The A+ criteria are based on state requirements and not a criteria SCHS can change. For this reason any absences will count against A+ status. Students are encouraged to check on their attendance as it relates to qualifying for A+.

### **How can I figure out where I stand with A+ attendance?**

Students can check with Mrs. Robertson or Mrs. Bizelli in the attendance office for assistance in understanding their A+ attendance.

### **Do I have to go to SAMS during final exams or can I be exempted?**

Students must have 50 hours of tutoring to complete the SAMS criteria and earn the SAMS credit. If a student is short hours, they should attend their SAMS class during final exam block. Students should see Mr. Jones in regards to SAMS attendance during final exams.

### **If I am exempted from a final can I go to my SAMS class for that time?**

Yes, but be sure to check with the SAMS teacher as well as Mr. Jones. They would make this decision on a case by case basis.

### **Do I have to be in attendance for teacher aide, office aide, and academic lab?**

Yes. Not being in school during final exams means that the student has been exempted from a final exam for a specific block. Teacher aide, office aide, and academic lab do not have final exams to exempt from- so therefore, these courses do not qualify under the final exam exemption incentive in regards to being able to not be on campus. Students will be expected to be in class.

A parent can call to excuse the absence during that specific block, but the absence will count against the attendance percentage for A+ and future attendance incentives. Students are cautioned to be sure of their attendance status before choosing this option. Students are expected to be here and if you miss it will count against your attendance meaning it will count against the 96% attendance for second semester finals and A+.

**Since I can't exempt a final from teacher aide but I qualify for other final exam exemptions, can I leave campus for lunch during teacher aide?**

No. Teacher aide is not an exempted final so the privilege of not having to be at school does not apply here. A parent could call and excuse the student; however, the absence would count against A+ and other attendance incentives. This would also apply to office aide and academic lab.

**If I am exempted from a morning final but have to take an afternoon final, when do I have to report to school?**

Students will need to be in attendance for the afternoon final. Students may choose (with parent permission) to not attend the scheduled review class and AIP based on individual preparations needed for finals. Students are encouraged to talk with their classroom teachers before making the decision to stay home, and students are reminded that if they are in the building they must be in pre-arranged supervision locations.

**If I am exempted from Block 2 final, do I have to attend the Block 2 review period that is scheduled on a different final exam day?**

Yes, unless the student is exempted from a final on that Block 2 review day. In other words students must be in attendance on the final exam day unless they are exempted from one of the two scheduled finals on that day.

**If I am NOT exempted from either final scheduled for Friday, December 15th, do I have to be in school the whole day?**

YES! This would be true for all four final exam days.

**If my teacher is giving an alternative assessment for a final or tells me I don't have to take the final, but I don't qualify for the final exam exemption incentive, do I have to be at school?**

YES! The student has not met the set criteria to be excused from attendance.

**What is the procedure for signing in and out?**

Students will follow the normal sign in and out procedures through the attendance office.

**If I am eligible to exempt a final but choose to take the final anyway, can it hurt my grade if I do not do well on the final?**

If a student is eligible to exempt a final but chooses to take the final anyway, the grade on the final exam cannot lower their overall grade. Students need to realize if you have an A but are not eligible to exempt the final, the final exam can lower your grade.

**If I exempt the final, am I required to attend school all day for sports/athletic eligibility (practice or games)?**

No!! We will allow a student participating in sports to miss school if they exempt a final and still practice or compete that day.