

Exam Exemptions

Exam Exemption Criteria (Revised November 27, 2015)

Students may be eligible for an examination exemption from one examination per semester so long as the following conditions are met:

1. A student who has any unexcused absence in any course will not be considered for an exemption.

While it is not possible to make an exhaustive list, the following are examples of excusable and un-excusable absences:

Excused Absence:

- Excused by parent
- Medical excuse (for specific date)

Unexcused Absence:

- An absence with no written excuse or contact from parent
 - Truancy
 - Missed the bus
2. A student is required to provide excuses for all classes for which they are absent. A written note, email, or verbal contact by parent, indicating the reason for the absence, is expected within five (5) school days of the student returning to school.
 3. A student shall not accumulate any more than six (6) excused absences in any course in which the student is enrolled.
 4. Classes missed due to co-curricular and extracurricular activities are not classified as absences. However, schools should monitor the number of classes individual students miss due to co-curricular and extracurricular activities.
 5. Any student who has accumulated any out-of-school suspensions is not eligible for an exam exemption in that semester.
 6. Repetitive lateness for classes will be addressed through the [Provincial School Code of Conduct](#) as an Unacceptable Behaviour (Insubordination) and may result in the loss of the eligibility of examination exemption as a school privilege.
 7. All major assessment components (other than the final assessment/examination) in each of the courses which s/he is enrolled must be complete.
 8. A student cannot be exempt from a CCRSB examination except on the terms laid down by the Chignecto-Central Regional School Board.
 9. A student cannot be exempt from a Nova Scotia Examination except on the terms laid down by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. These may be found on the Program of Learning Assessment for Nova Scotia website available online at <http://plans.ednet.ns.ca>.
 10. A student cannot be exempt from an examination in a year where in the following year a Nova Scotia Examination or CCRSB Examination is given.

NOTE:

For January 2016 and June 2016, students enrolled in Mathematics 11 and Mathematics Pre-Calculus 11 are not permitted to exempt the examination.

The CCRSB Mathematics 12 examination has been deferred for the 2015/16 school year due to new curriculum implementation.

11. A student cannot be exempt from any examination related to the International Baccalaureate (IB) program or Advanced Placement (AP) program.

12. A student cannot be exempt from any NSVS examination except on the terms laid down by the Nova Scotia Virtual School.

13. If a student is exempt from an exam, the student's term or final mark (usually out of 70%), is converted to a score out of 100%. There is no redistribution of weighting among other categories within the 70% term mark.

14. A student who earns an examination exemption but chooses to write the examination may take the mark reflected by the higher of the two options. In other words, the examination mark would be included in the calculation of the final grade if a higher grade is the result. If the examination results in a lower grade, the examination mark is not included in the calculation on the term's work.

Please note:

There are circumstances where principals are able to *not count* excusable absences.

- a. When a student is absent due to a death in the immediate family [maximum # of days is five (5)] the absence will not be counted. Immediate family is defined as parent/ guardian, step-parent, spouse, sibling, grandparent, aunt, and uncle. Immediate family shall be determined in particular cultural contexts, as required.
- b. When a student is absent due to a verifiable religious observance, the absence will not be counted.
- c. When a student is absent due to National Aboriginal Day (June 21) and/or Treaty Day (October 1).
- d. When a student is absent as a direct result of legal obligations which are supported by court subpoenas or appropriate documentation, the absence will not be counted.
- e. When a student, with a chronic illness, has an appointment(s) with a physician who is a specialist, (medical or dental), or mental health care professional who is a specialist, the principal will not need to count these excusable absence(s). Principals must receive proof of appointment in advance of any such absence
- f. When a student is a participant in a provincial, national, or international sporting, fine arts, or leadership event (excluding team tryouts and practices) or when a student is absent as a result of participation in an educational opportunity as deemed appropriate by the school administration, the absence will not be counted.
- g. When a CCRSB/private contractor is unable to provide conveyance the absence will not be counted.