



ROCHESTER
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PRIDE IN EXCELLENCE

CREDIT BY EXAM

Spring 2026

**Location: Rochester
High School
(1361 Walton Blvd.)**

**The registration link is located
on the back page of this document.**

EXAM FOR CREDIT SCHEDULE

Rochester Community Schools establishes semi-annual dates for implementing the District's Exam for Credit procedures. Students who wish to take an exam for credit are required to adhere to the following schedule.

Mar 1 - April 3, 2026	Registration period. To access the application, go to the Rochester Community Schools website: www.rochester.k12.mi.us - Click on Academics, click on Assessment, click on Credit by Exam. Click the maroon button for application . Scroll to the bottom of the packet for the link to the Google form.
Apr 8, 2026	Confirmation emails will be sent to student's RCS Gmail address. A list of Course Content Expectations/Syllabi* will be posted at www.rochester.k12.mi.us - Click on Academics, click on Assessment, click on Credit by Exam. Scroll down and click on the course name of the exam you're taking. **PLEASE NOTE: This information will not become available until 2 weeks prior to the testing window.**
Wed. April 22, 2026 and/or Sat. April 25, 2026	Exams for Credit will be administered at Rochester High School, except World Language assessments, which will be administered online from home. Check-in for in-person exams will begin at 3:00 pm on April 22nd or 8:30 am on April 25 th . Testing will begin at 3:30 pm on April 22 nd , and 9:00 am on April 25 th . Exams for single-semester courses will last approximately 90 minutes. Exams for full-year courses will last approximately 3 hours. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 22: Math*, English Language Arts, PE • April 22 at 4:00 pm: World Language (Assessment is online, taken at home) • April 25: Science, Social Studies, Elective courses, Health • April 25 at 12:00 pm: World Language (Assessment is online, taken at home)
Week of May 4, 2026	Notification of test results sent via ParentSquare (to student and parent/guardian email).
Wed, Aug. 5, 2026 8:00 – 11:00 am at RHS	*A separate Precalculus Exam will be offered for incoming 12 th grade students. Please click here if you are an upcoming senior and want to attempt the Precalculus Exam for Credit in August.

*The Exam for Credit measures a student's current understanding of a course's curriculum prior to taking the course. The materials and resources provided will not be all-inclusive of the specific exam questions.

Important Note: The Exam for Credit opportunity involves multiple staff members at an additional cost to the district. By law, these costs cannot be passed on to students. It is imperative that students who register but subsequently choose not to participate in an exam notify the Curriculum Department prior to the exam at sfilbin@rochester.k12.mi.us or 248.726.3132. Your cooperation will save time and valuable school resources and is much appreciated. *Students who register and do not attend the exam may not be eligible to participate in future Credit by Exam opportunities.*

If you have questions about the exam for credit, please contact the assistant principals at the high school your child attends or will attend for high school:

Alex Welsh-Adams
awelsh@rochester.k12.mi.us
248-726-5217

Beth Tocco-Stoney Creek
etocco@rochester.k12.mi.us
248-726-5716

Josh Beukema-Rochester
jbeukema@rochester.k12.mi.us
248-726-5415

EXAM FOR CREDIT PROCEDURES

The term “exam” in this document refers to the assessment tool(s) used to measure the student’s understanding of the subject area content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit. The appropriate Rochester Community Schools staff will determine assessment tools.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide consistent, equitable guidelines for Rochester secondary schools to comply with the State mandates, rules, and regulations, specifically concerning the Testing Out legislation (P.A. 451 of 1976, Section 380.1279b and Revised School Code, Section 380.1278a)

The law states:

What the Michigan Merit Curriculum Law Says 380.1278(a)(4)(c) A school district or public school academy shall also grant a student a credit if the student earns a qualifying score, as determined by the department, on the assessments developed or selected for the subject area by the department or the student earns a qualifying score, as determined by the school district or public school academy, on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by the school district or public school academy that measure a student’s understanding of the subject area content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

Credit Awarded to Pupil Not Enrolled in Course 380.1279(b) The board of a school district shall grant high school credit in any course to a pupil enrolled in high school, but who is not enrolled in the course, who has exhibited a reasonable level of mastery of the subject matter of the course by attaining a grade of not less than C+ in a final exam in the course, or, if there is no final exam, by exhibiting that mastery through the basic assessment used in the course which may consist of a portfolio, performance, paper, project, or presentation. For the purpose of earning credit under this section, any high school pupil may take the final examination in any course. Credit earned under this section shall be based on a “pass” grade and shall not be included in a computation of grade point average for any purpose. Credit earned under this section may or may not be counted toward graduation, as the board of the school district may determine, but the board’s determination shall apply equally to all such credit for all pupils and credit earned under this section shall be counted toward fulfillment of a requirement for a subject area course and shall be counted toward fulfillment of a requirement as to course sequence. Once credit is earned under this section, a pupil may not receive credit thereafter for a course lower in course sequence concerning the same subject area.

ELIGIBILITY

The exam for credit process applies equally to all students currently enrolled in Rochester Community Schools. Students scheduled to take a high school level course during the following semester and students currently enrolled in private or parochial schools who are registered to enter a Rochester Community Schools' high school or middle school qualify for Exam for Credit. Exam for Credit pertains to high school courses only. Students who meet the eligibility requirement will be permitted to test out of a class for credit during the designated test period.

NOTE: 8th-grade students will be eligible to take an Exam for Credit in World Language at the end of their 8th-grade year.

Some courses require group participation and/or extensive lab work; these are therefore exempt from Exam for Credit.

GUIDELINES

The following guidelines apply to the exam for credit procedures for students for the Spring, 2026 testing period.

1. State guidelines for Exam for Credit require a 77% or better passing score.
2. Students who receive 77% or better on their assessment will receive "T/O" (Test Out) along with the amount of credit they earned on their transcript. Only passing grades will be recorded on the transcript.
3. Courses that have been tested out of successfully will be accepted as fulfillment of a requirement in a course sequence.
4. Courses that have to be tested out of successfully will not count in the computation of the student's grade point average.
5. Courses that have been tested out of successfully will satisfy the numerical credits necessary for the fulfillment of graduation requirements.
6. A student who earns credit through Exam for Credit may not enroll in that course or test out of a lower course in the course sequence.
7. Students will have the opportunity to test out of courses each year **but cannot test more than once for any particular course**. Scores for students who retake a test will not result in credit.
8. With Curriculum Department approval, a student who has taken a course and failed may take an Exam for Credit in that course as a credit recovery option.

9. During the Spring Exam for Credit testing period, students may apply for semester or year-long courses and may take up to 4 semester exams or 2 year-long exams or any combination totaling 4 semesters/2years*. No more than 1 year-long or 2 semester-long exam(s) may be attempted per test day.
10. The test area will be open at 3:00 p.m. on Apr. 22nd and 8:30 a.m. on April 25th. The test will begin at 3:30 p.m. on Apr. 22nd and 9:00 a.m. on April 25th. The test will have a maximum time limit of 3 hours (90 minutes per semester).
11. Cell phones must be stowed away during testing. All graphing calculators must be approved prior to the start of the test.
12. Students are tested on their knowledge of the course/curriculum specific to accepted Rochester Community Schools expectations.
13. On April 8, 2026, registered students may access a list of Course Content Expectations and/or a syllabus for the course(s) they are attempting to test out of at <https://www.rochester.k12.mi.us/academics/assessment/credit-by-exam>. Click on Course Syllabus for the exam(s) you are registered for. **This information will become available on April 8, 2026.**
14. A student who registers for a test is expected to either take the test or cancel their registration. Failure to comply may compromise the ability to register in future years.
15. Results will be communicated the week of May 4th. Students should schedule an appointment with their counselor if a schedule change is needed.

**Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis and must be pre-approved by the Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education.*

**Please [click here](#) or use the QR code below to access the application form.
>>>You must be access the QR code from your RCS gmail address.<<<**

