



2026 - 2027 GPA EXEMPT COURSE INFORMATION

INFORMATION REGARDING EXEMPT COURSES

Students are encouraged to pursue their areas of special talents and interest to enrich their academic experience. Elective courses may be taken on a GPA-exempt basis as established by Board Local Policy EIC and identified in this brochure. A maximum of three (3) GPA Exempt credits may be earned. Students will only be enrolled in GPA exempt courses if the following eligibility criteria is met:

- Students must be in grades 10, 11, or 12.
- Students must have a 4.0 or higher GPA.
- Successful completion of course prerequisites must be completed.
- Students must have passed the prerequisite course for elective courses for which they are seeking a waiver.
- Students must maintain a passing average in the GPA exempt course to qualify and maintain GPA exempt eligibility.
- Students must submit an application in MyKatyCloud and obtain approval from their school counselor.
- Students understand they must be in their 2nd, 3rd, or 4th full year of continuous enrollment in the same program to meet eligibility for GPA-exempt status.
- Students may take a maximum of three (3) credits on a GPA Exempt basis during their high school career.

2026-2027 GPA Exempt Course Timeline	
Fall Semester 2026	
Application opens in MyKaty Cloud	August 12, 2026, at 12:00 AM
Deadline to submit application	October 8, 2026, at 11:59 PM
Spring Semester 2027	
Application opens in MyKaty Cloud	January 5, 2027, at 12:00 AM
Deadline to submit application	February 12, 2027, at 11:59 PM

The courses listed are the only approved GPA Exempt courses; they require successful completion of prerequisites specific to a course pathway or a program of study. A request for these courses must be made through the GPA exempt tile in MyKaty Cloud.

The following courses have been identified as GPA-exempt eligible for the 2026 – 2027 school year:

Career Technical Education (CTE) Courses

Courses below are the 3rd or 4th course in a program of study or only offered at Miller. Completion of prerequisites and/or corequisites required to earn GPA exemption.

Courses denoted with an asterisk (*) **MUST** be taken as the 3rd or 4th CTE course in a program of study to be GPA exempt.

8570 Accounting I	8520* Career Preparation I (2 credits)*
8580 Accounting II	8521* Career Preparation II (2 credits)*
8144* Advanced Animal Science*	8685V Cisco Network Engineering I with Lab (MCTC)
8987V Advanced Legal Systems (MCTC)	8686V Cisco Network Engineering II with Lab (MCTC)
8122 Agricultural Structures Design & Fabrication	8048 Civil Engineering and Architecture
8136 Agricultural Equipment Design and Fabrication	8082V Clinical Rotations (MCTC)
8036 Animation I	8009 Commercial Photography I
8026 Animation II	8013 Commercial Photography II
8030 Architectural Design II	8664V Computer Technician Cisco Academy (MCTC)
8030V Architectural Design II (MCTC)	8192V Construction Trades I (MCTC)
8031 Audio/Video Production I	8196V Construction Trades II (MCTC)
8033 Audio Video Production II	8972V Court Systems & Practices (MCTC)
8707V Automotive Basics (MCTC)	8977V Correctional Services (MCTC)
8700V Automotive Technology I (MCTC)	8744V Cosmetology I (MCTC)
8715V Automotive Technology II (MCTC)	8752V Cosmetology II (MCTC)
8622 Business Communication and Technologies	8751V Cosmetology Design and Color Theory (MCTC)
8510 Business Law	8312 Counseling & Mental Health
8532VIR Business Management	

8984V Criminal Investigations (MCTC)	8141 Livestock Production
8371V Culinary Arts (MCTC)	8057V Manufacturing Engineering Technology I (MCTC)
8678V Cybersecurity I (MCTC)	8058V Manufacturing Engineering Technology II (MCTC)
8679V Cybersecurity II (MCTC)	8543 Marketing in America
8075V Dental Assisting I (MCTC)	8077 Medical Assistant
8076V Dental Assisting II (MCTC)	8782 Naval Science II (NJROTC)
8027V Digital Audio Technology I (MCTC)	8784 Naval Science III (NJROTC)
8028V Digital Audio Technology II (MCTC)	8786 Naval Science IV (NJROTC)
8040 Diversified Manufacturing I	8087V Pharmacy I (MCTC)
8047 Diversified Manufacturing II	8088V Pharmacy II (MCTC)
8085V Emergency Medical Technician (MCTC)	8097V Pharmacology (MCTC)
8654 Engineering Design & Problem Solving	8125 Practicum in Agriculture Food, and Natural Resources
8602 Engineering Design & Presentation I	8001V Practicum in Architecture (MCTC)
8602V Engineering Design & Presentation I (MCTC)	8609 Practicum in Business Management 2 credits
8632 Entrepreneurship I	8611 Practicum in Business Management 3 credits
8683 Entrepreneurship II	8688 Practicum in Computer Technician
8524* Extended Career Preparation I (3 credits)*	8373V Practicum in Culinary Arts (MCTC)
8525* Extended Career Preparation II (3 credits)*	8689 Practicum in Cybersecurity
8549U Extended Practicum in Construction for Underground Utility	8682V Practicum in Digital Audio
8320 Fashion Design I	8991 Practicum in Education & Training
8321 Fashion Design II	8991V Practicum in Education & Training (MCTC)
8629 Fashion Marketing	8344 Practicum in Human Services
8237* Floral Design*	8985V Practicum in Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security (MCTC)
8364V Foundations of Restaurant Management (MCTC)	8059V Practicum in Manufacturing (MCTC)
8053 Graphic Design I	8660V Practicum in STEM (MCTC)
8056 Graphic Design and Illustration II	8548V Practicum in Construction for Underground Utility
8081 Health Science Theory	8024V Principles of Construction
8990 Instructional Practices in Education & Training	8118 Range Ecology Management
8990V Instructional Practices in Education & Training (MCTC)	8668 Social Media Marketing
8743V Introduction to Cosmetology (MCTC)	8147V Veterinary Medical Applications (MCTC)
8232* Horticulture Science*	8148V Veterinarian Assisting (MCTC)
8970V Law Enforcement I (MCTC)	
8976V Law Enforcement II (MCTC)	

Athletics

Continuous enrollment (year 2, 3, 4) in any designated athletic course regardless of sport; does not include the following PE courses: Lifetime Recreation & Outdoor Pursuits, Skills Based Lifetime Activities, Lifetime Fitness & Wellness Pursuits.

5429	Athletic Training 2	5252	Girls Soccer 2
5439	Athletic Training 3	5253	Girls Soccer 3
5449	Athletic Training 4	5254	Girls Soccer 4
5132	Baseball 2	5222	Girls Track 2
5133	Baseball 3	5223	Girls Track 3
5134	Baseball 4	5224	Girls Track 4
5112	Boys Basketball 2	5172	Golf 2
5113	Boys Basketball 3	5173	Golf 3
5114	Boys Basketball 4	5174	Golf 4
5162	Boys Cross Country 2	5472	Off-Campus PE 2 (2028)
5163	Boys Cross Country 3	5473	Off-Campus PE 3 (2028)
5164	Boys Cross Country 4	5474	Off-Campus PE 4 (2028)
5152	Boys Soccer 2	5232	Softball 2
5153	Boys Soccer 3	5233	Softball 3
5154	Boys Soccer 4	5234	Softball 4
5122	Boys Track 2	5182	Swim 2
5123	Boys Track 3	5183	Swim 3
5124	Boys Track 4	5184	Swim 4
5305	Cheerleading 2 (Sub athletics)	5192	Tennis 2
5306	Cheerleading 3 (Sub athletics)	5193	Tennis 3
5307	Cheerleading 4 (Sub athletics)	5194	Tennis 4
5272	Diving 2	5202	Volleyball 2
5273	Diving 3	5203	Volleyball 3
5274	Diving 4	5204	Volleyball 4
5102	Football 2	5452	Wrestling 2
5103	Football 3	5453	Wrestling 3
5104	Football 4	5454	Wrestling 4
5212	Girls Basketball 2		
5213	Girls Basketball 3		
5214	Girls Basketball 4		
5262	Girls Cross Country 2		
5263	Girls Cross Country 3		
5264	Girls Cross Country 4		

Fine Arts

Continuous enrollment (year 2, 3, 4) in any designated fine arts course.

7012	Band 2	7114	Jazz Band 4
7013	Band 3	7561	Painting 1 (ART)
7014	Band 4	7562	Painting 2 (ART)
7571	Ceramic 1 (ART)	7563	Painting 3 (ART)
7572	Ceramic 2 (ART)	7912	Orchestra 2
7573	Ceramic 3 (ART)	7913	Orchestra 3
7212	Choir 2	7914	Orchestra 4
7213	Choir 3	7581	Sculpture 1 (ART)
7214	Choir 4	7582	Sculpture 2 (ART)
7802	Dance Color Guard 2	7583	Sculpture 3 (ART)
7803	Dance Color Guard 3	7412	Theatre Arts 2
7804	Dance Color Guard 4	7413	Theatre Arts 3
7750	Dance Composition 1	7414	Theatre Arts 4
7751	Dance Composition 2	7521	Theatre Production 2
7712	Dance Team 2	7522	Theatre Production 3
7713	Dance Team 3	7523	Theatre Production 4
7714	Dance Team 4	7452	Technical Theatre 2
7551	Drawing 1 (ART)	7453	Technical Theatre 3
7552	Drawing 2 (ART)	7454	Technical Theatre 4
7553	Drawing 3 (ART)	7251	Vocal Ensemble 1
7255	Instrumental Ensemble 1	7252	Vocal Ensemble 2
7256	Instrumental Ensemble 2	7253	Vocal Ensemble 3
7257	Instrumental Ensemble 3	7254	Vocal Ensemble 4
7258	Instrumental Ensemble 4		
7111	Jazz Band 1		
7112	Jazz Band 2		
7113	Jazz Band 3		

- Students are eligible to GPA-exempt Band 2 or Dance Color Guard 2 if a full credit (1.0) of Fine Arts credit has been earned.
- If a student chooses to combine Band 1&2 or Dance Color Guard 1&2 to earn a full credit (1.0) of Fine Arts and a full PE substitution credit (1.0), they are eligible to GPA-exempt Band 3&4 or Dance Color Guard 3&4.

Other Electives

Continuous enrollment (year 2, 3, 4) in the following courses.

1631 Advanced Journalism Newspaper 1
1632 Advanced Journalism Newspaper 2
1633 Advanced Journalism Newspaper 3
1621 Advanced Journalism Yearbook 1
1622 Advanced Journalism Yearbook 2
1623 Advanced Journalism Yearbook 3
1532 Debate 2
1533 Debate 3

1651 Independent Study in Journalism
(YB/NP 4)
1534 Independent Study in Speech/
(Debate 4)
1522 Oral Interpretation 2
1523 Oral Interpretation 3
0081 Peer Assistance and Leadership (PAL)
2

1631 Advanced Journalism Newspaper 1
1632 Advanced Journalism Newspaper 2
1633 Advanced Journalism Newspaper 3
1621 Advanced Journalism Yearbook 1
1622 Advanced Journalism Yearbook 2
1623 Advanced Journalism Yearbook 3
1532 Debate 2
1533 Debate 3

1651 Independent Study in Journalism
(YB/NP 4)
1534 Independent Study in Speech/
(Debate 4)
1522 Oral Interpretation 2
1523 Oral Interpretation 3
0081 Peer Assistance and Leadership (PAL)
2

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO TAKE A GPA EXEMPT COURSE?

- Students must be in 10th, 11th, or 12th grade.
- Students must maintain a 4.0 or above grade point average (GPA).
- Successful completion of prerequisite courses specific to a pathway or a program of study must be completed.
- Students must have passed the prerequisite course for elective courses for which they are seeking a waiver.
- Students must maintain a passing average in the GPA exempt course to qualify and maintain GPA exempt eligibility.
- Students must submit an application in MyKatyCloud and obtain approval from their school counselor.
- Students understand they must be in their 2nd, 3rd, or 4th full year of continuous enrollment in the same program to meet eligibility for GPA-exempt status. Completion of prerequisites and/or corequisites required.
- Students may take a maximum of three (3) credits on a GPA Exempt basis during their high school career.
- For more information, see your counselor, teachers, director, or coach.

HOW ARE GRADES HANDLED IN A GPA EXEMPT COURSE?

Students who are eligible and choose to take one of these courses for a GPA EXEMPT grade:

- Will receive a numerical grade all year on the report card.
- Will receive the actual numeric grade with a comment or label indicating “GPA exempt” on the Academic Achievement Record (transcript).
- Will receive credit for these courses, but also have these courses excluded from the computation of GPA and class rank.
- Exemptions are granted on a semester basis.

WHAT ARE THE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR THESE COURSES?

- The numerical grade earned will be reported on the report card.
- Students are expected to complete all assigned work in a GPA-exempt course including tests and semester exams.
- Students eligible to exempt semester exams may choose to exempt a GPA-exempt course.

HOW WILL GRADES IN A GPA EXEMPT COURSE AFFECT ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES?

The numerical grades earned in a GPA Exempt course will be used to determine eligibility for participation in all UIL or school-sponsored activities. In addition, numerical grades will also be used to determine honor roll each six-weeks; for qualifying criteria used in selection of students for various positions such as dance team officers, class officers, exam exemptions, etc.; for eligibility for academic awards, including admission to organizations such as National Honor Society; etc.

IF A STUDENT COMPLETES A LEVEL ONE COURSE DURING ONE SCHOOL YEAR BUT DOES NOT ENROLL IN THE LEVEL TWO COURSE DURING THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR, THEN ENROLLS IN A LEVEL TWO COURSE DURING THE FOLLOWING YEAR, ARE THEY ELIGIBLE TO EXEMPT THE LEVEL TWO COURSE?

Yes. Each year's exemption stands alone. This qualifies as continuous enrollment in a coherent sequence.

IF A STUDENT EXEMPTS A COURSE DURING ONE SCHOOL YEAR BUT DOES NOT ENROLL IN THE COURSE DURING THE FOLLOWING YEAR, DO THEY LOSE THE EXEMPT STATUS FOR THE FIRST YEAR?

No. Each year's exemption stands alone.

DOES A STUDENT HAVE TO MAINTAIN ENROLLMENT IN A SINGLE ATHLETIC SPORT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR AN EXEMPTION?

No. Any athletic enrollment can qualify.

HOW DO STUDENTS ENROLL IN A GPA EXEMPT COURSE?

Students interested in taking one of the GPA Exempt courses must discuss this option with their school counselor at the beginning of the course. If the student meets all the criteria, they must:

1. Complete the online GPA Exempt application located in MyKaty Cloud.



2. Applications must be submitted during the appropriate window; exceptions will not be made. Once the window closes, if all criteria are met, the request will be approved, and a schedule change will be made to reflect enrollment in a GPA Exempt course.
 - a. Students requesting GPA Exempt status in a year-long course must submit an application each semester (one application for each semester); move-in students who miss the fall deadline may apply in the spring.
 - b. Students requesting GPA Exempt status in semester-long course must submit their application during the window in the semester the course is being taken.

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3. Once a student's request to take a course as GPA-exempt has been approved, the decision is final and cannot be changed.