



ROCHESTER
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PRIDE IN EXCELLENCE

Exam for Credit Packet

Winter 2026

Location: Adams High School
(3200 W. Tienken Rd)

Date: Wednesday, December 2nd

Time: Registration opens at 3:00 p.m.
Testing takes place from 3:30 – 6:30
p.m.

PLEASE READ: It is important to note that Credit by Exam is intended **solely for students who already possess a comprehensive understanding of the course content prior to taking the assessment**—for example, through prior learning, independent study, or relevant experience.

It is not recommended for students to register for an exam merely to “see how they do” or to practice test-taking skills. This assessment is not intended as a practice opportunity; rather, it is a formal measure of subject mastery. Students who do not yet possess a solid foundation in the material are unlikely to earn credit and may be better served by enrolling in the course for direct instruction and support.

Exam for Credit Schedule

Rochester Community Schools establishes semi-annual dates for implementing the District's Exam for Credit procedures. Winter testing is for all one-semester courses, such as Health, PE, Economics, Government, and some elective courses. The Spring testing dates are for all full-year courses, which are the majority of high school courses. Students who wish to take the Winter exam for credit must adhere to the following schedule for **ONE SEMESTER** courses.

October 15, 2026 – November 13, 2026	Registration period. To access the application packet, go to the Rochester Community Schools website www.rochester.k12.mi.us – Click on Academics, click on Assessment, click on Credit by Exam. Click maroon button for application . The link for Google application can be found on the last page of the packet.
November 13, 2026	Deadline to submit Exam for Credit applications via Google Doc. Click here to access the form. Please review the entire packet before registering to test.
November 18, 2026	Confirmation emails will be sent to students and families via ParentSquare. 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 course name of the exam you're taking.
December 2, 2026	Exam for Credit administered at Adams High School (3200 W. Tienken Rd). Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. and testing starts at 3:30 p.m. promptly.
Week of December 14, 2026	Parent/student/counselor notified of results via email for possible schedule change(s).

*The Exam for Credit measures a student's current understanding of a course's curriculum prior to taking the course. The material 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 Teaching & Learning Department at least one week before the exam at 248.726.3132. Your cooperation will save time and valuable school resources and is much appreciated. *Students who register but do not attend the exam may not be eligible to participate in future Credit by Exam opportunities.*

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

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

Beth Tocco-SCHS
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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.

Some courses require group participation; these are therefore exempt from Exam for Credit.

GUIDELINES

The following guidelines apply to the exam for credit procedures for students for the Winter 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 been 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 RCS 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.
8. With Teaching and Learning 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 Winter Exam for Credit testing period, students may attempt to test out of up to 2 semester-long courses*. We provide single-semester course exams during the winter to help students avoid taking multiple exams in the spring.

10. The test area will be open at 3:00 p.m. The test will begin at 3:30 p.m. Each test will have a maximum time limit of 90 minutes.
11. Cell phones must be stowed away during testing. All graphing calculators must be approved before 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 November 18, 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 November 18, 2026.**
14. Results will be communicated by the beginning of each semester or sooner, if possible. Students should contact 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.

