



KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT

COVID-19

SCHOOL CLOSURE COMMUNICATION

High School Grading FAQs

Why is the district using a new grading system for third trimester at KHS?

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) adopted new rules as a result of the emergency closure that we must follow for all high school courses. OSPI's Do No Harm rule protects students from adverse consequences of the emergency closure and limitations of Remote Learning.

What final grades can students earn on third trimester transcripts?

A, B, C, or Incomplete. Pass, No Credit, and/or F grades will not appear on third trimester transcripts.

How will this affect accumulated GPAs?

A, B, or C letter grades are calculated into the accumulated GPA. Incomplete does not affect accumulated GPA.

What if an IEP or 504 Plan specifies a different grading system?

The grading system in the learning plan will be followed.

How will students finish a course with a grade of Incomplete?

Students will have a variety of ways to finish a course that is Incomplete, including options that stretch into the duration of high school years. More details will emerge for these options.

Do Incomplete grades result in earning a credit for the course?

No. While a grade of Incomplete does not affect accumulated GPA, it also does not result in earning credit for the course. Students will still need to earn enough credits to graduate with a Kelso High School, Loowit, or KVA diploma. Students won't earn a credit until they finish the requirements for the course. Upon completion of the course, the "I" will be changed to the grade earned.

What about students taking high school courses in middle school like Algebra I, Geometry, or Advanced Science?

Middle school students who are taking high school courses follow these same rules.

How will third trimester grades be listed on transcripts?

Transcripts will look similar. Final grades for third trimester will have a statewide designator that indicates they were earned in these unique circumstances of emergency closure.



High School Grading FAQs, cont'd

What is the impact of this new system on admissions to Washington colleges and universities?

Washington colleges and universities published guidance on April 9 that stated admissions will not be harmed due to the emergency school closure.

Do these new rules affect academic college scholarships, NCAA eligibility, or military enlistment?

No. This is one of the major reasons OSPI changed their guidance to these new rules. Grades of P, NC, and F do not adequately communicate student progress in this time of long-term emergency school closure.

What about SAT or ACT tests for admissions?

SAT and ACT have changed testing schedules. See information at their websites: [SAT](#) and [ACT](#). Some universities are announcing that SAT or ACT scores are no longer required starting in the 2021-2022 school year.

Does this affect AP tests?

AP tests are under the authority of the College Board and do not directly affect grades or accumulated GPAs. The College Board is adjusting the test to accommodate the emergency school closure. See more information at [their website](#). Students should contact their AP teacher for details.

Can students choose to waive a course due to the emergency school closure?

No. Potential waivers are only for seniors. While the Washington State Board of Education adopted new emergency rules that allow districts to waive certain graduation credits for seniors, the following guidelines are in place:

- Seniors must continue to learn and attempt to earn credits. This is a good-faith effort to earn credit for the course.
- Seniors do not earn credits with a waiver.
- The waiver simply eliminates the requirement of the course for graduation purposes.
- The waivers are only for this year.

What if I have questions about class credits?

If you have questions in regards to credits, please contact your counselor.