



Freshman Testing Out Information

In compliance with state law, Rockford Public Schools provides the opportunity for students to “test out” of a grade-level course by demonstrating mastery of the content and skills, thereby earning course credit. The student will not earn a letter grade and the credit is not computed in a student’s grade point average (GPA). A grade of “CR” is noted on the transcript to indicate that credit was earned.

Testing out is an independent learning experience without support from the school or school staff. Mastery is defined as a score of 78% or higher on the comprehensive examination.

Testing Out Benefits

- Opportunity to advance or accelerate if the student has mastered the content and skills.
- Opportunity to earn credit for a course in which the student has mastery.

Testing Out Challenges:

- RPS is proud of the in-class experience. Our courses are designed to reinforce content and skills that are profoundly important.
- Students benefit from opportunities to construct knowledge while interacting with instructors and peers throughout the course.
- Many benefits of course participation are not reflected on an exam.
- Students are required to synthesize course knowledge independent of the instructional materials and expertise of RPS teachers.
- Credits earned via testing out are not included in the calculation of GPA nor considered in GPA calculated for NCAA eligibility.

If your student would like to register to test out of one or more courses, please complete the Google Form (<https://bit.ly/TestingOut2026>) no later than May 8, 2026. Students will select a date to participate in the examination from the choices available. Session dates are: June 8 at 8:00 a.m., June 8 at 12:00 p.m., June 10 at 1:00 p.m., June 11 at 7:30 a.m., and June 12 at 9:00 a.m. The date and time to test out of PE is set by the teacher who administers that exam. The school will not provide alternative dates to accommodate individual student schedules but students attending the East Coast Trip are asked to contact the principal directly (kamshey@rockfordschools.org) to discuss an option for testing out.

Thank you for your careful consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kelly Amshey, *Principal*
Rockford Freshman Center