

FAQs for COVID-19, Arlington ISD Parents

April 23, 2020

Student Requirements

Is my child required to attend school online during the closure?

Students are expected to complete the 2019-2020 school year online by showing progress toward the grade-level proficiency standards. Although school buildings are closed, instructional support is still occurring, and students are expected to continue learning. Beginning the week of April 13, 2020, teachers will periodically be taking attendance based on student participation. Please visit the [At-Home Learning Hub](#) to find out how your student can connect with his/her teachers and receive instructional support and expectations for successful completion of this academic school year. Students not engaged in the learning risk not gaining credit in their courses, not graduating, and/or not being promoted to the next grade level.

Arlington ISD teachers are recording no more than 1-2 grades per week per course/subject that will be used when making decisions about the progress students are making toward receiving credit or advancing to the next grade level, and they are periodically taking attendance based on student participation.

Are my kids going to advance to the next grade or is everyone being held back a year?

Students who complete work through the At-Home Learning Hub are making progress in mastering grade-level standards and are completing their work throughout the closure should advance to the next grade level for the 2020-2021 school year based on the recommendation of their teacher.

Awarding Credits

UPDATED How will teachers decide to award credit/promote a student to the next grade level?

During this challenging time, our goal is to ensure our students are as successful as possible. With that, teachers and principals will be using the following considerations to make final decisions:

- A student's progress toward proficiency of state standards in the course or grade level;
- A student's effort and persistence in completing the assignments provided; and
- A student's effort to master concepts taught.

Pre-K: Students in Pre-K will be promoted and parents will receive a general letter from the district regarding enrollment into kindergarten.

Grades K-2: Students will be promoted based on evidence of proficiency of the grade-level standards taught, especially in language arts and mathematics.

Grades 3-8: Students will be promoted based on evidence of overall proficiency in each core subject area.

Grades 9-12: Students will be awarded credit based on evidence of overall proficiency in each course.

Any decision to retain a student or to not award credit for a course (being assigned an INC for incomplete) will be made collaboratively between the teacher of record and the principal or his/her designee. Parents of students in this situation will be contacted by the school.

Report Cards

UPDATED Will I get a report card for the 5th six weeks and/or 6th six weeks?

- **5th six weeks:** Due to the lack of grades recorded, report cards will not be distributed districtwide. Teachers will not assign work to make up what was missed during the first two phases of the closure period. Assignments provided by the district in the At-Home Learning Hub during the 5th six weeks are not graded.
- In alignment with state law, students who were not making satisfactory progress in a foundational course (a core content area) during the first three weeks of the 5th six-week grading period will receive notification indicating their lack of progress to the parent/guardian. Teachers will personally contact parents of these students directly during the week of April 13, 2020.
- **6th six weeks:** A progress report will be published for all students in grades 3-12 on May 6, 2020, and a final report card will be distributed by May 28, 2020, for all students. Numeric grades will not be used on these report cards.
 - **Pre-K**
 - Because Pre-K students are not typically retained and Pre-K students will be unable to complete the face to face End-of-Year assessment needed to finalize report cards, parents of Pre-K students will receive a standardized letter from the district articulating their child's promotion to kindergarten.
 - **Kindergarten-2nd Grade**
 - All K-2 students will be issued a final standards-based report card.
 - **Grades 3-8:**
 - Progress reports and report cards will indicate PR for "progress" or NP for "no progress" for each course.
 - Final report cards will indicate a PS for "pass" or an INC for "incomplete."
 - Should a student not participate in the coursework provided, an INC for incomplete will be recorded as the final grade on the student's transcript and credit will not be awarded.
 - **Grades 9-12 (and grades 7 & 8 participating in high school courses):**
 - Progress reports and report cards will indicate PR for "progress" or NP for "no progress" for each course.
 - Final report cards will indicate CRD for "credit" or INC for "incomplete" for each course thereby awarding credit or not awarding credit on the student's transcript.

- Should a student not participate in the coursework provided, an INC for “incomplete” will be recorded as the final grade on the student’s transcript and credit will not be awarded.
- Parents of students who are assigned an incomplete will be contacted by the school.
- Parents/guardians of special education students will receive IEP progress notifications in accordance with the law.
- Arlington ISD is implementing a credit/pass and incomplete grade for final report cards for all secondary students. Incompletes earned will not receive credit and will function similarly as a fail until credit is earned. Please refer to question #9 on [the NCAA guidance document](#) for specific information pertaining to pass/fail grades.

Credit Recovery

What options do seniors have to recover credit needed for graduation?

The below strategies are being implemented to support seniors graduating on time:

- Seniors have been enrolled in Edgenuity to regain first semester credit
- Seniors have been enrolled in Edgenuity SEL modules to regain first semester credit due to the 90% attendance rule
- Seniors will complete a teacher-created Canvas grade redemption process to gain credit in a course not within Edgenuity
- The Canvas grade redemption process is available to senior students who are not being successful in Edgenuity.

What options do underclassmen (and junior high students taking high school courses) have to recover credit for a failed course connected to a 2019-2020 STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) exam?

TEA recently provided guidance that if a student is not graduating and is currently enrolled in an EOC-related course, the EOC passing requirement will be waived if the student receives credit for the course during the 2019-2020 school year. The below options are available for these underclassmen:

- For a failed course in the fall with a grade of 60-69, students will participate in a Canvas grade redemption process with their classroom teacher.
- For a failed course in the fall with a grade below 60, students will be enrolled in the corresponding course in Edgenuity.
- For courses denied credit in the fall due to the 90% attendance rule, students will be enrolled in Edgenuity SEL Modules to regain credit.

What options do underclassmen (students in grades 9-11) have to recover credit for failed non-EOC courses needed for graduation?

For failed courses, credit recovery options have been differentiated by grades made in the fall semester by underclassmen:

- For a failed course in the fall with a grade of 60-69, students will participate in a Canvas grade redemption process with their classroom teacher.
- For a failed course in the fall with a grade below 60, students will be enrolled in the corresponding course in Edgenuity.
- Teachers may choose to support underclassmen who made below a 60 through the Canvas grade redemption process.

If an underclassman previously failed a course that is not needed for graduation, how can credit be earned?

Credit recovery options have been differentiated by grades made in the fall semester for these underclassmen:

- Students in grades 9-11 who failed a course in the fall of the 2019-2020 school year with a grade of 60-69 will participate in Canvas Grade Redemption Process.
- Students in grades 9-11 who failed a course in the fall of the 2019-2020 school year with a grade below 60 will be enrolled in the corresponding Edgenuity course to earn credit.

What options do high school students have to recover course credit that was denied in a previous semester for not meeting the state's 90% attendance rule?

High school students having to recover course credit that was denied in the fall 2019 semester for not meeting the state's 90% attendance rule will be enrolled in Edgenuity SEL Modules to regain credit.

What options do junior high school students have to recover grades for courses failed in the fall 2019?

Enrollment in Edgenuity is available for junior high school students having to recover grades for courses failed in the fall 2019.

GPA Calculations

What is the difference between the GPA used to determine Graduation Honors for seniors and a student's final GPA?

Each year, the school district calculates an initial GPA using a pre-determined cut date to identify the Top 10% of the graduating class including the Valedictorian and Salutatorian. This year, that cut date will be the end of the 2019-2020 first semester.

At the end of the school year, when all grades have been submitted for completed courses, a final GPA is calculated for all seniors. This GPA is the final GPA that is recorded on the students' transcripts. This GPA will include all credit-bearing courses completed prior to closure and any courses failed prior to closure that were recovered in credit recovery.

Other Questions

When can we get to the building to remove personal items?

We are working on a plan for a safe way for teachers and students to enter buildings to get their belongings. We do not have that plan finalized yet, but when we do we will send that information to parents.

What are we going to do about prom/graduation?

The survey we sent to seniors to get feedback on graduation and prom closed recently, so we are still compiling that data to see what the best options are. We'll combine the survey data with the information from Superintendent Dr. Marcelo Cavazos' virtual meetings with student leaders from each campus and input from high school principals to make a final decision to share with our families.

When is the last day of school?

The last day of school for the 2019-2020 school year is May 28, 2020.

When is registration for the next school year?

Registration for Pre-K and kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year opened on Monday, April 20, 2020. Go to www.aisd.net/prek for Pre-K information or www.aisd.net/kinder for kindergarten information. Registration for first-through-12th grades for the 2020-2021 school year will open at a later date.

When will we know if my child was accepted into a specialized program for next school year?

Notifications will go out on Monday, May 4 for Arlington Collegiate High School, Arlington College and Career High School, and the STEM Academy at Martin High School. Notifications for the Spring application window for Percy STEM Academy, Jones Academy of Fine Arts and Dual Language, and Wimbish World Language Academy went out the first week of March. Corey Academy of Fine Arts and Dual Language and Crow Leadership Academy acceptance information went out in the fall.

Are we coming back to school in the fall?

We are certainly hopeful that we will begin the 2020-2021 school year as planned with campuses opened and buildings full of students, teachers and staff. However, we will continue to follow the guidance of our state and local elected and public health officials.

How are our students protected when they are online and using a district-issued device and/or do you have any internet safety tips?

The Arlington ISD is in the process of rolling out filtering protocols to district-issued devices that families have checked out that will offer the same protection as if they were at school. While filter software catches the vast majority of sites, we always recommend working with your child or be in the same room with them when they are using technology. [The Arlington ISD has online safety tips for both students and parents on our website.](#)