

To receive a School Counts! Certificate, a student must meet all listed criteria:

Students must have an end of the year letter grade of “C” or better in every subject. Attendance and punctuality rates are as follows: a student may have up to nine absences and five tardies and still be eligible for a certificate. The absentee rate is calculated on a 180 day school year, therefore, students who miss more than nine days of school (or 5% of 180 days) for any reason during a single academic year, are not eligible for a School Counts! Certificate. The total number of absences should include anytime the student is physically not in the building (with the exception of authorized school trips), which include excused and unexcused absences, or any other release time. Students are expected to maintain a positive behavior with no out of school suspensions. Exceptions to these rules can be made for situations that are clearly not part of a pattern of behavior, like days missed due to a death in the family, school trip, college visits, sports, court hearings, or a medical excuse. Exceptions to these rules should be approved by the principal and director of guidance or preferably by a larger school-based committee.

Tardies would follow the same rules, using the district’s definition “tardy” for determining eligibility. More than five “tardies” received in a single school year makes a student ineligible for the School Counts! certificate. Since attendance and tardies are determined in total, if a student has both absent days and tardies, the numbers should be added to determine eligibility. For example, nine days absent and five times late during any one school year is within the guidelines.

Any student who is “on time and on target to graduate” meets this criteria. Most students are expected to complete high school in eight consecutive semesters with no dropping out. However, a special needs students whose IEP demands more than four years of high school also meets this criteria. Any student who has repeated a grade level in high school is ineligible for the School Counts! program.

Most school districts require students to earn a higher number of courses required for graduation. To meet this criteria, a student must exceed, or be scheduling enough courses to exceed each school’s minimum requirement. Note: Summer school can provide students with the opportunity to make up credits, but not absences or grades. For more information visit our website at www.pct.edu/k12/schoolcounts

SCHOOL counts!

School Counts! Student Commitment Card

YES! I want to participate in the School Counts! Program.

Student Name: _____

Homeroom Number: _____ Grade: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

Counselor: _____
