

IMPORTANT PASS/FAIL CONSIDERATIONS FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Academic Probation

Students currently on academic probation must understand the implications of a pass/fail option. It's important to remember that an F will impact a student's GPA, while a P[^] or P* will not improve it. Before making decision to elect pass/fail, students on probation should consult with their academic advisor or academic coach.

Applying to Graduate School

Some graduate programs require letter grades in classes that are prerequisites to their programs. If a student plans on applying to graduate school, it might NOT be a good idea for them to take any prerequisite or related courses as pass/fail.

Students thinking of electing a pass/fail option should inform their advisors of any plans for applying to graduate school. When possible, they should consult with any graduate program(s) to which they plan to apply.

Financial Aid

In order to receive financial aid, students must meet the satisfactory academic progress (SAP) standards, which require undergraduate students to maintain a 2.0 overall GPA and complete 67% of the credits they attempt, regardless of whether they elected pass/fail options. When it comes to determining SAP for financial aid, it doesn't make a difference if a course(s) is elected as pass/fail or taken for a letter grade. Students should contact Financial Aid with any further questions related to the financial impact of placing a course on pass/fail.

Many scholarships, whether they be University-based or private, have specific requirements. These requirements can range from maintaining a defined GPA to earning a specific letter grade in a course. Students who have scholarships should contact the provider of their specific scholarships if they have questions regarding how electing pass/fail options might impact their scholarships.

Veterans Benefits

Students receiving Veteran Benefits under the Post 9/11, Vocational Rehabilitation or Tuition Assistance programs should contact CCSU's Veterans Affairs office for guidance.

GPA Calculations

Students should consider the possible impact(s) that electing pass/fail options can have on their GPAs. It's important to remember that an F will impact a student's GPA, while a P[^] or P* will not improve it.

Course Repeats

Grades taken for pass/fail are not eligible for the potential benefits of course repeat GPA consideration. Students retaking a course to replace the original grade should not elect pass/fail, as passing grades are excluded from GPA calculations.

Prerequisites

Pass grades may not automatically satisfy prerequisites for future semester courses, particularly where a specific letter grade higher than a C- is required. While CCSU retains a record of the original letter grade submitted by a student's instructor, the original letter grade will not be automatically considered during registration prerequisite checking for courses where a student has elected pass/fail.

Special Program/Groups

Students who are part of non-academic programs and/or groups should check with those programs before electing a pass/fail. While most of these programs/groups do not require students to have particular letter grades, they may have GPA requirements.

- Athletes
- International Students
- Veterans
- Access programs such as EOP, Hartford Promise, Care Scholars, etc.
- Employer sponsored tuition benefit programs

Please Note: this is NOT a complete or exhaustive list of special programs or groups that may be impacted by pass/fail elections. Students who are members of any other non-academic programs or groups, should check with the programs/groups before making a pass/fail election.

Transferring Credits

Courses taken on a pass/fail basis might not be accepted for transfer credit when attending another institution. Students considering a pass/fail should consult the policy of the institutions to which they plan to transfer credits.

External Certification and Licensure

Students who are enrolled in academic programs that leads to professional licensure or certification and are considering electing pass/fail should consult with their faculty advisors. When possible, they should consult with the external agencies or organizations to which they plan to apply for licensure or certification upon completion of their academic programs.