



Updated FAQ's for COVID-19 Academic Affairs Grading Policy

What does a grade of “Pass” represent: A grade of "Pass" represents a grade of A, B, or C for all undergraduate courses, and an A or B for all graduate courses

- **When should I consider this option:** You should consider this option if you want credit for the class, but not the GPA points associated with the grade you earned;
- **Will I earn credit with a ‘P’:** yes
- **Will I earn grade points with a ‘P’:** no
- **Will this grade of "P" impact my GPA:** no

What does a grade of “Fail” represent: A grade of "Fail" represents a grade of D or F for all undergraduate courses, and grades of C, D, or F for all graduate courses

- **When should I consider this option:** This is not a good option. Instead, you should consider requesting a late withdrawal, especially if you were not passing a course at midterm.
- **What if I earned a ‘D’ in an undergraduate course or a ‘C’ in a graduate course:** You can accept the ‘D,’ and earn the grade points (if it is accepted by your program, this grade will fulfill the degree requirement, but your GPA will be impacted); or request a late withdrawal. **For Graduate Students:** You can accept the ‘C’ and earn the grade points (Only 2 grades of ‘C’ may be applied toward completion of any graduate degree program; or request a late withdrawal;
- **Will a grade of ‘Fail’ affect my GPA:** Yes. It is the grade of ‘F.’
- **Will I earn credit with the ‘Fail’ grade:** No.

How will a Pass/Fail affect my financial aid? Without the calculation of a GPA, you may not be eligible for the continuation of certain scholarships/financial aid. Please check with the financial aid office at, nsufinaid@nsula.edu, before invoking the P/F option.

How will this affect my NSU scholarships? NSU is working to adjust policy where possible to support continuity of institutional scholarships. We will keep you updated as enhancements are made. Note: the NSU Foundation is also working to adjust policy where possible to support continuity of NSU Foundation privately funded scholarships.

How will this affect a private non-NSU scholarship? If you are receiving a scholarship from an outside source, we encourage you to work with those entities for scholarship continuity guidance.

How do P/F grades impact my GPA? A P(PASS) grade counts as a completed grade and has no impact on your GPA. If you are on probation and need to raise your GPA, a P grade will not move your GPA up or down. A grade of F (FAIL) impacts your GPA as a failing grade.



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How will this affect my TOPS eligibility? On April 2, 2020, Governor Edwards suspended the following TOPS continuation requirements for the 2019-2020 Academic Year:

- The steady academic progress requirements
- The minimum grade point average requirements
- The deadlines requiring that a student whose award is suspended for failure to meet the grade point average requirements must bring his grade point average up to that required in the applicable statute within a specified time period

The suspension of these requirements applies to students who were:

- Enrolled full time as of the census date in a college in Louisiana and were enrolled on March 13, 2020;
- Enrolled full time at an out of state college or university as of the census date and remained enrolled through March 13, 2020;
- Enrolled full time as of the census date and who were studying abroad and were required to return to Louisiana due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country in which the students were studying;
- Scheduled to be enrolled full time at a school operating on a basis other than semesters during the spring of 2020.

Official TOPS FAQs, as provided by LOSFA, <https://mylosfa.la.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-19-QUESTIONS-AND-ANSWERS.pdf>.

What about admission to graduate and professional schools in the future?

- Some graduate and professional schools require a letter grade in required/listed prerequisite courses. If you do not have a letter grade, you may have to repeat the course prior to acceptance into those programs.

What if I want to take the pass/fail option for some courses but the letter grade option for others?

- The grading options are to be decided on a course-by-course basis.
- You can decide to use a letter grade in one of your courses for the semester and a Pass/Fail option for another course

Can I make this decision on my own?

- Ultimately, the decision is yours as a student. However, we strongly encourage and advise you to talk with your Academic Advisor, Director, Dept. Head, and Academic Dean to make the best academic decision for your future. We also encourage and advise you to talk with the Financial Aid office to determine how the grading policies could negatively impact your continued financial aid.

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