



## Pass+/Pass/No Pass Grading System

### General Information

After serious consideration and conversation with deans, faculty and our students, it became clear that following our standard letter grading policy during the coronavirus crisis was not the best path forward. Given the circumstances that arose during the spring 2020 quarter through to the summer 2020 quarter as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19, the University of Denver will allow undergraduate and graduate students (except Law where other standards apply) to elect to convert letter course grades for the summer 2020 quarter to PASS+/PASS/NO PASS grades. Courses that were already graded on other systems such as P/F or P/NP are not eligible. Students will have up to 3 business days after grades are available for viewing to opt into the PASS+/PASS/NO PASS grading mode.

This system considers that many students are uncertain as to how they will perform academically in the summer 2020 term given health, economic, and personal issues. The modified grading system allows students to pursue classes without concern as to the impact on their cumulative GPAs. At the same time, traditional grades may be required for admission to graduate programs, ability to transfer to other institutions, licensure requirements, and certain benefits eligibility. For example, some professional licensing entities may not allow students to sit for an exam if a certain number of P+/P/NP grades appear on a transcript. P+/P/NP grades may not be in the best interest of students who may be near minimum GPA requirements.

Students may elect to convert any or all course(s) from letter grading to Pass+/Pass/No Pass grading. Should a student choose to convert their course:

- Pass Plus (P+) is defined as institutional credit with a grade of C or higher.
- Pass (P) is defined as institutional credit with a grade of D+, D, or D-.
- No Pass (NP) is defined as no institutional credit because the grade is lower than D-.

Students can opt into P+/P/NP grading by logging into PioneerWeb and going into the Student tab. A new channel is available – Alternate Grade Selection for Select 2020 Terms. Click on “Alternate Grade Mode Selection.” From here you may select P+/P/NP for any eligible classes. You can also change your selection at anytime up until three business days after final grades are posted.

We will modify the academic probation and dismissal policy for the summer 2020 quarter. No student will be academically dismissed on the basis of their summer 2020 quarter grades.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### How do I opt into the P+/P/NP grading system?

Students can opt into P+/P/NP grading on the Student tab in PioneerWeb. A new channel is available – Alternate Grade Selection for Select 2020 Terms. Click “Alternate Grade Mode Selection.” You may select P+/P/NP for any eligible classes. You may change your selection at



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any time until three business days after grades have been published.

What process will be utilized to convert an assigned letter grade to a P+/P/NP grade?

Three business days after final grades have been made available, your assigned grade will be converted to P+/P/NP you have opted in. After the grade has been converted, you may not change back to the original grade.

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departmental standards for good-standing, should not elect this option. Students who are on academic probation will not be able to raise their GPA with a P+/P/NP option.

Students who are concerned about licensure, professional standards, entrance into medical or graduate school, or, if scholarships or benefits require a particular GPA in order to continue, please consider whether this is the right choice, as it may have unintended consequences. Many schools and agencies are just trying to understand the implications of alternative grading schemes themselves. You will want to check in directly with outside schools, scholarship entities, licensure programs, etc. to see what standards apply for alternative grading.

Courses with a P+/P/NP grade may or may not be accepted as transfer credit into programs at other schools.

**Once a student decides to convert letter grade class to P+/P/NP will there be further opportunity to reverse that decision?**

After grades are available for viewing, and a student chooses to elect to convert a class to P+/P/NP, the decision is irrevocable, without appeal with respect to the mode of grading. All policies regarding general grade appeals remain in place.

**Will students who request an Incomplete for a summer 2020 class be permitted to convert the class to P+/P/NP grading?**

No. Courses must be completed in the summer 2020 quarter to be eligible for this grading mode. Once an incomplete is assigned, it must be finished in the agreed upon time or it will atrophy to an F.

**If I choose to take an Incomplete grade for a Summer 2020 course, can the final earned grade be converted to P+/P/NP once it is posted to my transcript?**

No. Students can only opt into the alternative grading mode for classes completed during the 2020 Summer term.

**Will students who finish an Incomplete (assigned in a prior quarter) during summer quarter 2020 be able to opt into P+/P/NP?**

No. Only summer 2020 classes are eligible for this grading mode.

**Should I choose P+/P/NP grading if I become ill during the quarter and cannot finish the work?**



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What resources will be available to help a student decide whether to convert their class to P+/P/NP grading?

Students should consult an academic advisor, dean's office, financial aid officer, or any other campus resource with whom they regularly work on decisions related to registration, add/drop, or repeating coursework. Please know that many colleges and universities have taken similar steps in creating different grading modes for this quarter, but the external agencies are still trying to understand the impact. We share information as we learn it.

Students are responsible for completing their own due diligence to be fully aware of the implications of their decision to convert their letter grade to P+/P/NP grading.

Taking this step will be especially significant as students consider the implications of their GPA and its impact on scholarships (athletics and other), financial aid, veteran's benefits, licensure, graduate/professional school admission, and/or other professional goals.

What if I don't want the faculty member to know I am on the 1a

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