

Important Updates Regarding High School Grades & Graduation Requirements

Hello Ceres High School Families,

On Thursday, July 1, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 104 into law and we'd like to provide you with important information on how this legislation may relate to your student.

Changing Letter Grades to Credit/No Credit

Per AB104, parents/guardians of students who were enrolled in high school during the 2020-21 school year may request to have a letter grade earned for a course changed to a Credit/No Credit on the student's transcript.

How to Request Letter Grade Changes to Credit/No Credit

If you would like to request a course taken in the 2020-21 academic year be changed to Credit / No Credit, please follow these steps.

1. Print, fill out, sign, and date the Credit/No Credit Request Form.
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Nav20stBVInowm5m9fk577qLY9tFxFxPgZ/view?usp=sharing>
2. Submit the form to the CHS counseling office.
3. Learning Directors will review the form and schedule a meeting with the family to review the request.
4. Once the request has been reviewed and signed by the parent, student, and Learning Director the change will be reflected on the transcript within 15 days.

If you have any questions regarding whether a grade change would benefit your student, please contact your student's Learning Director or click on the link for more information.

[Questions Regarding Switching to Credit/No Credit from a Letter Grade](#)

QUESTIONS REGARDING SWITCHING TO CREDIT/NO CREDIT FROM A LETTER GRADE

Important Note: While the option for high school students to convert letter grades to Credit/No Credit has been made available through AB 104, it is unclear how college/university admissions officials will view transcripts with one or many Credit/No Credit grades attributed to the 2020-2021 school year. This is a question the Ceres Unified School District cannot answer. We highly recommend engaging in a conversation with officials at the schools you wish to attend before converting grades in an effort to address pandemic performance issues. Once converted to Credit/No Credit, you will not be able to reverse your decision.

Will UC schools accept Credit/No Credit grades?

UC schools are encouraged, but not required, to notify the California Department of Education about whether they will accept Credit/No Credit marks for purposes of admission.

Are colleges and universities accepting a Credit/No Credit mark for purposes of admission?

Colleges and private universities are encouraged, but not required, to notify the California Department of Education about whether they will accept Credit/No Credit or purposes of admission.

Can Universities factor in Credit/No Credit courses when determining admissions? For example, if two students had a similar GPA and extracurriculars but one of them had more Credit/No Credit classes on their transcript, would admissions officers be allowed to favor the student who had less Credit/No Credit classes?

The district is not privy to the admissions process for each university and cannot provide an answer to this question. Some postsecondary institutions, including those in other states, may not accept a Credit/No Credit grade in lieu of a letter grade for admission purposes. You would need to contact the admissions of each university directly.

How will students be considered against each other during admissions when having a Credit/No Credit Pass as a grade as we know some colleges and universities consider GPA as part of the admissions? Does this impact the students' opportunity to enroll in those colleges?

The district is not privy to the admissions process for each university and cannot provide an answer to this question. Some postsecondary institutions, including those in other states, may not accept a Credit or No Credit grade in lieu of a letter grade for admission purposes which would then potentially put your child at a disadvantage. You would need to contact the admissions of each university directly.

How will this new system differentiate a student's knowledge on subjects by just Credit as grade?

A Credit/No Credit result simply communicates basic competency in the subject matter, but is not designed to differentiate a student's knowledge of a given subject. For a student passing with a low grade, a Credit/No Credit option may make sense, for a student receiving an "A" or "B," it might not.

Will the GPA score be provided along with credit or no credit?

The GPA on your high school transcript will reflect the results of all classes receiving a letter grade. Credit/No Credit results will indicate competency (or lack thereof) in a subject, but will have no impact on GPA.

Does this ruling mean we can replace all class grades or do we only get to select one class to change to Credit/No Credit?

You may choose to change all letter grades to Credit/No Credit or only select individual courses. Please note that a request form will need to be submitted for each course that you'd like to change to a Credit/No Credit.

How can the GPA be positively impacted by using Credit/No Credit. For example, when I get an A in a class it comes with 4 grade points, is that the same value that we will get with a "credit" grade?

The GPA is calculated by taking the total number of grade points awarded for all classes and dividing that number by the total number of graded classes taken. With a Credit/No Credit mark for a course, the course is not factored into the GPA at all. The GPA can be positively impacted by using the Credit/No Credit option if the student earns a letter grade in a course that is lower than their GPA. In other words, if a student has a 3.0 GPA and then earns a "C" grade in a class worth 2 grade points, factoring that "C" into the GPA will lower it below the 3.0. If the student chooses the Credit/No Credit option, the class in which the student earned a "C" will not be factored into the GPA calculation.

Will changing a "B" letter grade to a "Credit" be beneficial for a student's GPA?

A student's GPA might be increased by changing a "B" letter grade to a "Credit" if the student has mostly "A" grades on their transcript.

How is the GPA positively impacted by selecting a Credit/No Credit on a course?

Changing a “D” or even a “C” letter grade to a “Credit” will likely increase a student’s GPA, depending on the GPA the student had prior to the grade change. In the case of a student who has an F that is converted to a No Credit, the zero credits are no longer factored into the GPA. No grade changes will be made that lowers a student’s GPA.

Are all Credit/No Credit grades not going to be counted towards our cumulative GPA?

Credit/No Credit grades are not going to be counted toward the cumulative GPA.

If I had a B in a class, and I switch that grade to the Credit/No Credit category, my GPA will not include that value in my average GPA at all, correct?

Correct.

Are students able to switch a Credit/No Credit from the 2020-21 school year to a letter grade?

The new law does not allow students/parents to request a change from a Credit/No Credit to a letter grade.

Is there a limit to the number of courses we can change to a Credit/No Credit?

There is no limit on the number of courses you can submit a request form for as long as the course was taken by a high school student during the 2020-21 school year.

If the colleges do choose to accept Credit/No Credit grades, will they still see our letter grades?

No.