

**Accomack County Public Schools
COVID-19 Emergency Grading Policy
Revised 4-21-2020**

Why is there an Emergency Grading System?

The COVID-19 emergency, and the resulting closure of all Virginia schools by the Governor's order and transition to distance learning, has created access and learning challenges for many Accomack County Public Schools (ACPS) students. To ensure that students' academic progress is not adversely impacted.

What is the Emergency Grading System?

The Emergency Grading System is primarily a default Pass/Fail/Incomplete grading scale for Spring 2020 classes that were not scheduled to end before June 5. **Students earning a high school standard credit do have the option to receive letter grades if they so choose.** As noted in the chart below, students will receive one of the following grades:

Grade	What does the Grade Mean?	How does it Apply?
P	Pass with a grade of "D" or higher	A grade of P will not be calculated in a student's GPA. A student will be awarded a standard credit for the course.
F	Fail due to not completing and showing mastery of majority of the required state SOLs/Competencies/Objectives	A grade of F will not be calculated in a student's GPA. A student will not be awarded a standard credit for the course.
I	Incomplete	The principal, parent and student may agree to a plan to complete remaining course requirements no later than the end of the Fall 2020 semester.

Who does the Emergency Grading System Apply to?

The Emergency Grades will apply to all students in grades K-12. However, **ONLY** students in grades 8-12 earning a high school standard credit have the option to receive letter grades if they so choose.

What marking period will the Emergency Grade System apply to?

The Emergency Grades will apply to (Quarter 3), (Quarter 4), and Y1 (Final grade for Semester 2 or Yearlong course).

Will P (Pass) Grade Count Towards Graduation Requirements?

Emergency grades will not be factored into the student's ACPS GPA. The P grade will be counted towards course completion as a standard credit for the graduation requirements.

How does this apply to Honors, Advanced Placement, and Dual Enrollment courses?

Students will earn a Pass/Fail as their recorded grade and on the high school transcript. Students earning this high school standard credit do have the option to receive letter grades if they so choose.

How will Grades and Assessments be factored for the Spring Semester 2020? (Applies to High School Courses Only)

Course grades for each student were recorded at the initial closure on March 13. These grades may be updated for assignments that students needed to make up from absences prior to March 13. These grades will be preserved for comparison and reference purposes.

- March 13th will be the end of the Q3 marking period, and the recorded grade as of that date will be the final Q3 grade.
- ACPS will begin Q4 on May 4th with new instruction and continue to assign grades, with appropriate expectations and flexibility in the context of challenges involved with the virtual delivery of instruction and external conditions.
- Grades will be recorded in the online gradebook as normal and will be viewable to students and parents using PowerSchool.
- Quizzes and tests following March 13 will count no more than 50% of the recorded grades. All assignments will carry normal grade weighting.
- If an end of year letter grade represents a decline from the grade on March 13, a review will take place to determine if the decrease is due to difficulties with the online format. Lack of student effort/participation during this time will not be accepted.
- If an end of year letter grade represents an increase from the March 13 grade, the student will receive the higher letter grade.

How will other Colleges and Universities know what the P Grade Means?

A note will be placed on the student's transcript indicating what the P grade means.

What is the Letter Grade Option? (Applies to High School Courses Only)

Students may opt out of the ACPS COVID-19 Emergency Grade System. This means they will receive a grade of A, B, C, D, or F for the course. Students who take the Letter Grade option should know that:

1. You will be assigned a letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F instead of a P, F, or I.
2. Once you choose a Letter Grade option, you may not change back to the ACPS COVID-19 Emergency Grade system.
3. **You must opt into a letter grade on or before May 5, 12:00 PM.**
4. A letter grade (A, B, C, D, or F) **WILL** be calculated in your ACPS Grade Point Average (GPA).
5. A grade of P, F, or I **WILL NOT** be calculated in your ACPS Grade Point Average (GPA).

How Do I Request a Letter Grade?

To request a letter grade, student or parent will email their teacher and school counselor with the Subject Heading: Letter Grade Request. In the body of the email, students/parents will provide the student's name, the name of the course, and the statement, "I request a letter grade for [name of course]." The email must be submitted by **May 5, 12:00 PM**.

Will the COVID-19 Emergency Grading System affect Class Rank?

Class rank will be calculated with the letter grade awarded to all standard credit courses. The senior cohort 2020 will have the entire year calculated in the GPA, if awarded a letter grade.