

FAQ Regarding Temporary Pass-Satisfactory/Fail-Unsatisfactory Procedure for Graduate Students Summer 2020

[Note: Law Students are not eligible for the Pass/Fail option in Summer 2020]

1. Why is the university using S/U rather than P/F for Pass/Fail?

S/U is the CSU equivalent of Pass/Fail. A grade of S (Satisfactory) will mean a Pass (P) and a U (Unsatisfactory) will mean a Fail (F). This is the grading scheme in place at CSU for just this kind of situation.

2. Will I know my grade before I need to decide if I want the S/U option?

Yes, for Summer 2020, students will first be able to see their letter grade for the course. You can then decide if you want the S/U option.

3. How do I opt in for the S/U option?

You need to fill out the Summer 2020 COVID-19 Pass/Fail Grading Basis Option form. The form will be accessible on CampusNet from the Student Tab by selecting the Grades link and then Summer 20. Students should complete all requested information on the form, including all of your requested course details. This form will be available for the following Summer terms:

- Session 6W1 (First 6-week summer session): The Pass/Fail form will be available to students from June 29th through July 3rd.
- Session 8W and 10W (8-week and 10-week summer sessions): The Pass/Fail form will be available from July 27th through July 31st.
- Session 12W and 6W2 (12-week and 6-week summer 2 sessions): The Pass/Fail form will be available from August 12th through August 16th.
- Students in alternatively scheduled courses (ALT) can access the Pass/Fail form during the period closest to their grade posting.

Please allow several business days after completing the form for the new S/U grade to appear in campusnet.

4. Do I have to do “all or nothing” for S/U options for my classes?

No. You can choose each course separately. See #3 above to fill out a request form for each course for which you want to do the S/U option.

5. Can faculty say “no” to my request for the S/U option?

No. Faculty will not know which students have chosen the S/U option. They will submit the letter grade you earned and then if you requested the S/U option, it will be converted to S/U when you fill out the pass/fail form after several business days as long as your course is not on the [excluded course list](#).

6. I plan to take the S/U option, can I stop doing the work for the class?

No. You need to complete the work of the whole class. Each professor will calculate your grade based upon the course syllabus at the end of the term. If you have earned a grade of B- or better, you will receive an S. If you earn a grade of C or F, you will earn a grade of U, you will not earn the credits, and you will most likely need to retake the class.

7. Will grades of C count as an S?

No, only grades of B- or higher will count for satisfactory (grade of S). Graduate students need to maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher in graduate school. Grades of B- are below that threshold. Awarding an S to grades of B- is already a relaxing of our regular standards. Additionally, there will not be any academic dismissals this term. See #15 below.

8. Are all courses eligible to do S/U?

No. There are a small number of exempt courses. [Click here for the list of exempt courses.](#)

9. How does the S/U option affect my GPA?

Any course with the S/U option will not affect GPA in any way. The S will not help your GPA and the U will not hurt your GPA. If you choose S/U for all your courses, then your cumulative GPA will not change.

10. How do I know if I should take the S/U option?

You should talk with your professor and/or graduate program director. If you expect to earn a grade of C and want simply to earn credit for the course, then the S/U option will not help you as you need a B- or better to earn a grade of S. If you expect to earn a grade of B-, B, or B+, it depends on what your current GPA is. Consult your graduate program director for assistance.

11. I'm taking a course in a sequence and I need a B or better to take the next course? Can I take the S/U option?

Yes. If you chose the S/U option and earn a grade of S, you will earn credit for your current course and be allowed to progress to the next course.

12. My degree program requires a B or better in certain courses, can I take those courses with the S/U option?

Yes. If you chose the S/U option and a grade of S, you will earn credit for your current course and the course will count toward your degree requirement.

13. I am an international student, can I take the S/U option?

You should contact the Center for International Services and Programs for guidance. (intlcenter@csuohio.edu)

14. My tuition is paid by my employer, can I take the S/U option?

You should contact your employer to make sure they will pay for the course if you opt for S/U grading.

15. Will S/U grades lead to dismissal?

No. This term only, students will not be put on academic dismissal for academic grade reasons.

16. Will taking the S/U option affect my graduate assistantship?

No. Eligibility for future GA opportunities is not impacted by choice of S/U.

17. Will taking the S/U option negatively impact my federal financial aid?

No. The federal government assesses students to assure they are making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). SAP depends on having a GPA above 3.0 and passing 67% of the classes enrolled in spring semester.

- **Do grades of S count as passing for SAP? How will the 67% completion ration for Summer 2020 be calculated?**

Yes, grades of S will count as completing a course successfully. As long as you earn a grade of S in 67% of your classes, your aid will continue.

- **My spring cumulative GPA is not a 3.0, but I earned all S grades for summer, what will happen?**
You will continue to receive financial aid. The spring cumulative GPA will come forward, we will know you passed all your classes and you will continue to receive financial aid.
- **I am new to CSU for Summer 2020, I am taking all my classes with the S/U option, how will my GPA be calculated?**
You will continue to receive aid as long as you earn a grade of S in 67% of your classes. Your GPA will be calculated as a 0.0.