



# Pocono Mountain School District

## High School Grading

### Frequently-Asked Questions

#### 1. Why are we using Pass/Fail course grades?

We cannot assign letter grades meant to assess student performance on course content covered in a typical marking period or semester since students cannot be taught the full course content under the current online circumstances. Letter grades meant for a full semester course would be unjustified in comparison to a fully completed course. The solution is to describe student learning more broadly with a "Pass," while awarding full course credit.

High school teachers may choose to grade each individual assignment and provide feedback during the 4th marking period for the purpose of indicating whether a student demonstrated an understanding of the work completed. Individual assignment grades must then be converted to a Pass/Fail for the 4<sup>th</sup> marking period and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester grades.

#### 2. How will my courses be graded?

a. Year-long courses: Your grades from marking period 1 & marking period 2 will be factored into your cumulative grade point average (GPA). Your marking period 3 grades will receive a course grade of Pass/ Fail that takes into account the work you completed in your classes prior to the school closures that began on March 16, 2020.

You will also receive a course grade of Pass/Fail at the conclusion of marking period 4. Your grades from marking period 3 & marking period 4 will not be factored into your cumulative grade point average (GPA).

b. AP courses: Your grade from marking period 2 will be factored into your cumulative grade point average (GPA). Your marking period 3 grades will receive a course grade of Pass/ Fail that takes into account the work you completed in your classes prior to the school closures that began on March 16, 2020. You will also receive a course grade of

Pass/Fail at the conclusion of marking period 4. Your grades from marking period 3 and marking period 4 will not be factored into your cumulative grade point average (GPA).

c. 2<sup>nd</sup> semester electives: You will receive a course grade of Pass/Fail. Your cumulative grade point average (GPA) will remain unaffected by courses that end in marking period 4.

**3. How will honor roll be impacted by Pass/Fail?**

Honor roll will not be calculated for marking period 3 or 4.

**4. Will Honors/AP courses receive a weighted grade with the Pass/Fail grade?**

No, Honors/AP courses will not receive a weighted grade or contribute to cumulative GPA.

**5. Will a Pass/Fail grade on my transcript affect my college admissions?**

All high schools, colleges, and universities across the country are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many high schools, colleges, and universities have adjusted their grading scales to Pass/Fail due to the school closure. As students apply to college in future years, college admission counselors will be very aware of the unique nature of this semester. If you have concerns about a specific university, we encourage you to contact the university's admissions office.

**6. How will class rank be calculated?**

Class rank for the 2019-2020 school year will be determined by cumulative grade point averages at the conclusion of semester one final grades.

**7. Will there be exams at the end of marking period 4?**

No, there will not be final exams at the conclusion of marking period 4.

**8. I am a student-athlete, how will the NCAA Eligibility Center view a Pass/Fail in a course?**

From NCAA.org, "In response to closings, cancellations and changes related to COVID-19, the Eligibility Center is closely monitoring the impact on students and their ability to meet NCAA initial-eligibility requirements. The EC will be posting more information here in the coming days to assist our prospective student-athletes and the high school community. For information on COVID-19, please visit [ncaa.org/COVID-19](https://ncaa.org/COVID-19) and continue to monitor for more information from the Eligibility Center at [on.ncaa.com/EC\\_COVID](https://on.ncaa.com/EC_COVID).

In response to questions regarding schools that have moved to **distance or e-learning environments**, the Eligibility Center has released guidance on this topic. [Click here](#) to read more.

The **ACT and SAT have modified their testing schedules**. [Click here](#) for ACT information. [Click here](#) for SAT information.”

**9. I am enrolled at the Monroe County Vocational Technical School. How will my MCTI grade be calculated?**

Your grades from marking period 1 & marking period 2 will be factored into your cumulative grade point average (GPA). You will receive a course grade of Pass/Fail at the conclusion of marking period 4. Your grades from marking period 3 & marking period 4 will not be factored into your cumulative grade point average (GPA).

**10. I am enrolled in PMSD Cyber Program, how will cyber course grades be calculated?**

You will receive a course grade of Pass/Fail. Your course grade will not be factored into your cumulative grade point average (GPA). Please contact Mrs. Nora Wandalowski, Director, PMSD Cyber Program ([nwandalowski@pmsd.org](mailto:nwandalowski@pmsd.org)) with any questions.