

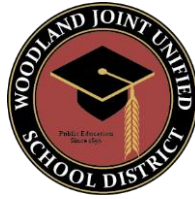
WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Excellence for All"

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July 30, 2021

WJUSD 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 Pass/No Pass for High School Students Only

Per AB104, parents/guardians of students who were enrolled in high school during the **2020-2021 school year** may request to have a letter grade earned for a course changed to a Pass or No Pass on the student's transcript.

- **An official form to submit a grade change for Pass/No Pass is available [here](#).** **Parents/guardians will have until August 14, 2021 to turn the form into their child's school on behalf of their student.** Per the legislation, districts may not accept requests for a grade change after that date. Once a form is received by the school, the school then has 15 days to make the change on the student's transcript and notify the family. *Please note: Students who are currently over the age of 18 may submit a grade change to Pass/No Pass independently from their parent/guardian.*
- **The course requested for a Pass/No Pass must have been taken during the 2020-2021 school year.** There is no restriction on which courses or which letter grades can be changed.
- **The change cannot negatively impact a student's Grade Point Average (GPA).** When an "F" is converted to a "No Pass," the zero credits are no longer factored into the GPA. Similarly, changing a "D" or even a "C" letter grade to a "Pass" will likely increase a student's GPA, depending on the GPA the student had prior to the grade change. No grade changes will be made that lower a student's GPA.
- **California Department of Education (CDE) has posted a list of universities who will accept a Pass/No Pass.** UC colleges and private universities are encouraged, but not required, to notify the CDE over the next two weeks about whether they will accept Pass/No Pass marks for purposes of admission. The list is [available here](#) on the CDE website.

Change in Graduation Requirements/Opportunity for Credit Recovery

Any student who was enrolled in 11th or 12th grade during the 2020-2021 school year and who is not on track to graduate in four years is exempt from all local graduation requirements beyond the state-mandated courses.

- These students will be provided with opportunities to complete state-mandated courses required for graduation, which may include, but are not limited to, completion of the coursework through an additional year of schooling (a fifth year of high school) or credit recovery.
- Cache Creek, Woodland and Pioneer High School administrators will notify eligible students and their parents/guardians to develop a signed, Individualized Learning Plan for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Contact your school for more information.

GRADE CHANGE APPLICATION

SCHOOL YEAR 2020–2021

Instructions:

Parents of students shall complete the form below to request a grade change for the 2020–21 school year. Fill in all fields, sign the form, and submit to your child's local educational agency.

Student Information:

First Name:

Last Name:

Student ID:

Student Grade: 9 10 11 12

School Information:

School Name:

Semester: Fall Spring Summer

Term (Block Schedule): Term 1 Term 2 Summer

Courses to be changed:

Course Code	Course Title	Teacher Name	Current Grade	Grade Change P/NP

Education Code:

Pursuant to *Education Code* Section 49066.5 (2)(b): The parent, guardian, or education rights holder of a pupil or, for a pupil 18 years of age or older, the pupil who was enrolled in high school and enrolled in a course during the 2020–21 school year may apply to the pupil's local educational agency to have a letter grade earned for that course, as reflected on the pupil's transcript, changed to a Pass or No Pass grade.

Parent/Guardian/Education Rights Holder Signature:

Today's Date



Woodland Joint Unified School District
435 Sixth Street
Woodland, CA 95695

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

Important Note: While the option for high school students to convert letter grades to Pass/No Pass has been made available through AB 104, it is unclear how college/university admissions officials will view transcripts with one or many Pass/No Pass grades attributed to the 2020-2021 school year. This is a question the Woodland Joint Unified School District (WJUSD) 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 Pass/No Pass, you will not be able to reverse your decision.

What is the deadline for submitting a grade change request?

The deadline for students to submit a grade change request is fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of the educational agency's website posting and written notice to parents/guardians. The 15 day time period will begin July 30, 2021, and end Saturday, August 14, 2021.

Will UC schools accept Pass/No Pass grades?

UC schools are encouraged, but not required, to notify the California Department of Education (CDE) about whether they will accept Pass/No Pass marks for purposes of admission. The CDE has made the list [available here](#) on the CDE webpage.

Are colleges and universities accepting a Pass/No Pass 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 Pass/No Pass marks for purposes of admission. WJUSD will share this list of universities when the grade change form is sent to high school families.

Can universities factor in Pass/No Pass courses when determining admissions? For example, if two students had a similar GPA and extracurriculars but one of them had more Pass/No Pass classes on their transcript, would admissions officers be allowed to favor the student who had less Pass/No Pass 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 Pass/No Pass grade in lieu of a letter grade for admission purposes. You would need to contact the admissions of each university directly.

Does a Pass/No Pass grade affect the ability to get into medical schools, scholarships, or really nice 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 Pass/No Pass 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 Pass/No Pass as a grade as we know some colleges and universities consider Grade Point Average (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 Pass or No Pass 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.

Secondly how will this new system differentiate a student's knowledge on subjects by just Pass as grade?

A Pass/No Pass 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 Pass/No Pass option may make sense, for a student receiving an "A" or "B," it might not.

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

The GPA on your high school transcript will reflect the results of all classes receiving a letter grade. Pass/No Pass 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 Pass/No Pass?

You may choose to change all letter grades to Pass/No Pass or only select individual courses. The grade change application form should list all courses you want to change to Pass/No Pass.

How can the GPA be positively impacted by using Pass/No Pass. 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 pass 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 Pass/No Pass mark for a course, the course is not factored into the GPA at all. The GPA can be positively impacted by using the Pass/No Pass 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 Pass/No Pass 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 "Pass" be beneficial for a student's GPA?

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

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

Changing a "D" or even a "C" letter grade to a "Pass" 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 Pass, the zero credits are no longer factored into the GPA. No grade changes will be made that lowers a student's GPA.

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

Pass/No Pass 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 Pass/No Pass category, my GPA will not include that value in my average GPA at all, correct?

Correct.

Are students able to switch a Pass/No Pass from the 2020-2021 school year to a letter grade?

The new law does not allow students/parents to request a change from a Pass/Fail to a letter grade.

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

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 2020-2021 school year.

Will submitting an official form replace all of our class letter grades or do we only get to select one course to change to Pass/No Pass?

A request form will need to be submitted for each course that you'd like to submit a Pass/No Pass request. Submitting only one request form does not cover all courses taken during the 2020-2021 school year.

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

No.

Is it a good idea to change C grades to a pass? My child will have to change about 7 of his grades from C/D to Pass for both semesters. I am wondering whether to keep the C grades or change them so that their GPA increases.

You may want to reach out to your child's counselor when they return at the beginning of August. Each student's circumstances are unique, and a counselor can discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this decision.

Is there a conversion chart to help me decide if I should opt for pass/no pass?

There is not a conversion chart, however the law makes it clear that the district cannot change your letter grade to a Pass/No Pass if it will lower your GPA.

If we change the letter grades to Pass/No Pass for just 1 subject (for example Integrated Math II only), the other subjects will show the letter grades, right?

Yes.

If the university requires letter grades, will the student get another (later - optional) transcript with letter grades?

No.

If we change once, could that be reverted back to letter grades?

No.