

## AR 4232 Pass and No Pass (New AR#)

Section taken from AR 4230 Grading & Academic Record Symbols

### Courses offered only on a Pass/No Pass (P/NP) basis:

The purpose of this policy is to permit the College to offer courses specifically designated as Pass/No Pass courses. Students enrolled in courses designated as Pass/No Pass shall be evaluated on a single satisfactory standard of performance. The P/NP grading system shall be used to the exclusion of other grades. "Pass" shall be assigned for meeting that satisfactory standard; "no pass" for failure to do so. The student shall be required to take all tests and complete all assignments and shall be subject to all withdrawal and attendance regulations. Courses designated as pass/no pass shall be so noted in the college catalog.

### Students option for pass/no pass grades:

The purpose of this policy is to permit the College to offer a student the option of enrolling in a course on a pass/no pass basis in lieu of enrolling on a grade basis. This option to enroll in a class on a pass/no pass basis is designed to encourage students to explore courses without fear of penalty of a low grade in areas in which they have an interest but no special competence. The student shall be required to take all tests and complete all assignments and shall be subject to all withdrawal and attendance regulations. Standards of evaluation are identical for all students. A "P" grade is to be recorded for performance equivalent to "C or better" and an "NP" grade is to be recorded for less than satisfactory performance (D or F).

To obtain approval to enroll in a course on a pass/no pass basis, the student must petition through their student portal. The petition must be submitted by the published deadline which is **the last day of instruction as published by the District** ~~30% of the course length~~. Any course of duration two weeks or less may not be taken on a pass/no pass basis. A student taking a course on a pass/no pass basis cannot change to a letter grade basis after the published deadline that represents ~~30% completion of the course~~ **the last day of instruction as published by the District**. The decision to take a course on a pass/no pass basis is irrevocable after the deadline even if it is later discovered that the "P/NP" grade is not acceptable by the student's transfer college. **(do we keep grades?)**

### Criteria for approval of a petition for Pass/No Pass:

1. ~~Course units taken under the option of pass/no pass may not exceed a total of 14 transferable units at Santa Monica College~~ **unless a petition is submitted. Students may take an unlimited number of units on a pass/no pass basis. Students must opt in for the P/NP grading option on their student portal (corsair).**

**Students are advised to check with transfer institutions on pass/no pass limitations before opting for this grading option. (What is the message on corsair? Mark understand, instead of petition?)**

All non-transferable courses and courses that are graded exclusively on a pass/no pass basis are not subject to the ~~14~~-unit limitation.

2. Students who have already received a ~~bachelor of arts or science~~ **Baccalaureate or higher** degree from an **institutionally** accredited ~~college or university~~ **institution** may take an unlimited number of units on a pass/no pass basis.

### Pass/No Pass grades:

Pass will be indicated on a student's permanent record as "P" with units completed and no grade points. No pass will be indicated on the student's permanent record as "NP" with no units completed and no grade points. In either case, a student's grade point average is not affected. Units in courses taken on a pass/no pass basis will be included in the student's cumulative units enrolled for purposes of determining lack of progress probation and dismissal.

**All units of credit earned on a pass/no pass basis in institutionally accredited institutions or non-U.S. institutionally accredited institutions deemed to be equivalent units shall be counted in satisfaction of curriculum requirements as noted.**

**Exceptions apply to completion of coursework with a minimum earned grade of "C" or "P" in each course required in the major/area of emphasis. Any major course taken on a "Pass/No Pass" basis with a grade of "P" shall count toward the major/area of emphasis units provided a "P" is equivalent to a "C" or better per Title 5, Section 55063(a)(2). (there is no mention in Title 5 of "C" or better for Engl, Math, overall "C")**

### Transfer Institutions Limitation of P/NP Grading Option:

**Students who intend to transfer are advised that transfer institutions may place limits on the number of P/NP course credits the institution will accept, whether the course will satisfy major specific requirements, course modality specific requirements and any other relevant factors.**

Students intending to transfer should note that this grading option may not be accepted for meeting major requirements and most universities have a unit limitation on credits transferred on a pass/no pass basis.

Title 5, Sections 55022 and 55063

Ed Code Sections 66700 and 70901

October 11, 2023

## § 55022. Pass-No Pass Grading Option.

### Currentness

(a) The policy adopted pursuant to section 55021 may permit courses to be offered in either or both of the following categories and, if so, shall require that each college catalog specify the category into which each course falls:

(1) Courses in which all students are evaluated on a “pass-no pass” basis.

(2) Courses in which each student may elect until the last day of instruction, as established and published by the districts, whether the basis of evaluation is to be “pass-no pass” or a letter grade.

(b) All units of credit earned on a “pass-no pass” or “credit-no credit” basis in accredited California institutions of higher education or equivalent out-of-state institutions shall be counted in satisfaction of community college curriculum requirements.

(c) Units earned on a “pass-no pass” basis shall not be used to calculate grade point averages. However, units attempted for which a student receives a “NP” designation (as defined in section 55023) shall be considered in probation and dismissal procedures.

## § 55063. Minimum Requirements for the Associate Degree.

### Currentness

(a) The governing board of a community college district shall confer the associate degree upon a student who has met all requirements of this section.

(b) General unit requirements.

(1) The associate degree requires satisfactory completion of at least 60 semester units or 90 quarter units of degree-applicable credit course work accepted by the degree-granting college. Courses completed at other institutions that meet or exceed the standards of the California Community Colleges may be counted toward associate degree unit requirements. At least 12 semester or 18 quarter units must be completed in residence at the degree-granting college, unless the governing board excuses this requirement to alleviate injustice or undue hardship.

(2) “Satisfactory completion” means either credit earned on a “pass-no pass” basis, or with a grade point average of 2.0 or better in the associate degree community college credit courses.

(c) Major or area of emphasis requirement.

(1) A minimum of 18 semester units or 27 quarter units must be taken in a single discipline, or related disciplines, as listed in the community college's "Taxonomy of Programs," or in an area of emphasis involving lower division coursework to prepare students for a field of study or major at the University of California, or the California State University.

(2) For all students admitted to a community college for the Fall 2009 term or any term thereafter, each course counted toward the unit requirement of this subdivision must be completed with a grade of C or better or a "P" if the course is taken on a "pass-no pass" basis.

(d) General Education Requirements. A minimum of 18 semester units or 27 quarter units of general education coursework must be completed in the areas described in this subdivision (d), or as otherwise determined by the degree-granting college.

(1) Natural Sciences. Courses in the natural sciences examine the physical universe, its life forms, and its natural phenomena. Such courses help students appreciate and understand the scientific method, and understand the relationships between science and other human activities. This category includes introductory or integrative courses in astronomy, biology, chemistry, general physical science, geology, meteorology, oceanography, physical geography, physical anthropology, physics, and other scientific disciplines. A minimum of three semester or four quarter units must be completed in this area.

(2) Social and Behavioral Sciences. Courses in the social and behavioral sciences focus on people as members of society. Such courses develop awareness of the method of inquiry used by the social and behavioral sciences. They stimulate critical thinking about the ways people act and have acted in response to their societies, and promote appreciation of how societies and social subgroups operate. This category includes introductory or integrative survey courses in cultural anthropology, cultural geography, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, and related disciplines. A minimum of three semester or four quarter units must be completed in this area.

(3) Humanities. Courses in the humanities study the cultural activities and artistic expressions of human beings. Such courses develop awareness of the ways in which people throughout the ages, and in different cultures, respond to themselves and the world around them in artistic and cultural creation, and develop aesthetic understanding and an ability to make value judgments. Such courses include introductory or integrative courses in the arts, foreign languages, literature, philosophy, and religion. A minimum of three semester or four quarter units must be completed in this area.

(4) Language and Rationality. Courses in language and rationality develop the principles and applications of language toward logical thought, clear and precise expression, and critical evaluation of communication in whatever symbol system the student uses. This includes courses in both English Composition, and Communication and Analytical Thinking as follows:

(A) English Composition. Courses fulfilling the written composition requirement include both expository and argumentative writing, and may be taught in disciplines including, but not limited to, English and English as a Second Language. A minimum of three semester or four quarter units must be completed in this area.

(B) Communication and Analytical Thinking. Courses fulfilling the communication and analytical thinking requirement include, but are not limited to, oral communication, mathematics, and quantitative reasoning courses such as logic, statistics, computer languages, programming, and related disciplines. A minimum of three semester or four quarter units must be completed in this area.

(e) Additional Requirements. The associate degree also requires demonstrated competence in reading, written expression, and mathematics, and satisfactory completion of a course in ethnic studies, as follows:

(1) Satisfactory completion of a course in English at the level of the course typically known as Freshman Composition. This requirement may also be met by satisfactory completion of an English course taught in another department or discipline that requires entrance skills at a level equivalent to those for Freshman Composition, or by demonstrating competency that is comparable to satisfactory completion of a specified English course. The equivalence of English coursework, and the methods of demonstrating comparable competency in written expression and reading is determined by the college/district.

(2) Satisfactory completion of a course in mathematics at or above the level of the course typically known as Intermediate Algebra (either Intermediate Algebra or another mathematics course at or above the same level, with the same rigor, and with Elementary Algebra as a prerequisite, approved locally). This requirement may also be met by satisfactory completion of a mathematics course taught in another department or discipline that requires entrance skills at a level equivalent to Intermediate Algebra, or by demonstrating competency that is comparable to satisfactory completion of a mathematics course at or above the level of the course typically known as Intermediate Algebra. The equivalence of mathematics coursework, and the method of demonstrating comparable competency in mathematics is determined by the college/district.

**(3) Satisfactory completion of a transfer-level course (minimum of three semester units or four quarter units) in ethnic studies.** This requirement may be satisfied by obtaining a satisfactory grade in a course in ethnic studies taught in or on behalf of other departments and disciplines.

(f) A course may satisfy more than one general education requirement, but course completion may be counted only once toward satisfying the 18 semester unit or 27 quarter unit general education requirement. A course may also satisfy both a general education requirement and a major or area of emphasis requirement, and course completion may be counted toward both requirements, depending upon college/district policy. Students may use the same course to meet a general education requirement for the associate degree, and to satisfy a general education requirement at the California State University or the University of California, if such course is accepted by that system to satisfy a general education requirement.

66700.

The California Community Colleges are postsecondary schools and shall continue to be a part of the public school system of this state. The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges shall prescribe minimum standards for the formation and operation of the California Community Colleges and exercise general supervision over the California Community Colleges.

*PART 43. THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES [70900 - 70902]  
( Heading of Part 43 renumbered from Part 43.5 by Stats. 1995, Ch. 758, Sec. 78. )*

70901.

(a) The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges shall provide leadership and direction in the continuing development of the California Community Colleges as an integral and effective element in the structure of public higher education in the state. The work of the board of governors shall at all times be directed to maintaining and continuing, to the maximum degree permissible, local authority and control in the administration of the California Community Colleges.

(b) Subject to, and in furtherance of, subdivision (a), and in consultation with community college districts and other interested parties as specified in subdivision (e), the board of governors shall provide general supervision over community college districts, and shall, in furtherance of those purposes, perform the following functions:

(1) Establish minimum standards as required by law, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) Minimum standards to govern student academic standards relating to graduation requirements and probation, dismissal, and readmission policies.

(B) Minimum standards for the employment of academic and administrative staff in community colleges.

(C) Minimum standards for the formation of community colleges and districts.

(D) Minimum standards for credit and noncredit classes.

(E) Minimum standards governing procedures established by governing boards of community college districts to ensure faculty, staff, and students the right to participate effectively in district and college governance, and the opportunity to express their opinions at the campus level and to ensure that these opinions are given every reasonable consideration, and the right of academic senates to assume primary responsibility for making recommendations in the areas of curriculum and academic standards.....