

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

FALL 2020

[Note: Law Students are not eligible for the Pass/Fail option in Fall 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 Fall 2020, students will first be able to see their letter grade for the course. Once you see the grade posted in Campusnet, you can then decide if you want the S/U option for the eligible course. Instructions on how to request the S/U option in Campusnet are available [here](#). PLEASE NOTE: Once you make the request for a grade to be S/U, you cannot change your mind. The deadline for choosing the S/U grading option is Friday, December 18th at 5pm.

3. What grades constitute an S and which constitute a U?

Grades of B or better can be converted to the S grade. Grades of B-, C, or F can be converted to the U grade.

Undergraduate Students Taking Graduate Courses (500- Level)

Undergraduate students requesting the pass/fail option for a 500- level course will receive an S or U as follows:

- A, B+, and B grades will receive a grade of 'S'.
- B-, C and F grades will receive a grade of 'U'.

Graduate Students Taking Undergraduate Courses

Graduate students requesting the pass/fail option for a 100-, 200- or 300- level course will receive an S or U as follows:

- A, B+, B, B-, C+, C grades will receive a grade of 'S'.
- D and F grades will receive a grade of 'U'.

Graduate students requesting pass/fail option for a 400- level course will receive an S or U as follows:

- A, B+ and B grades will receive a grade of 'S'.
- B-, C+, C, D and F grades will receive a grade of 'U'.

4. How do S/U grades 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.

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

Once you see the grade posted in Campusnet, you can then decide if you want the S/U option for the eligible course. Instructions on how to request the S/U option in Campusnet are available [here](#). PLEASE NOTE: Once you make the request for a grade to be S/U, you cannot change your mind. The deadline for choosing the S/U grading option is Friday, December 18th at 5pm.

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

No. You can choose each course separately.

7. 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. If you requested the S/U option, the grade will be converted to S/U as long as your course is not on the exempt course [list](#).

8. 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.

9. Will grades of B- or 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.

10. 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.

11. 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 earn a grade of B- or 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 A- it depends on what your current GPA is. Consult your graduate program director for assistance.

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. 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)

15. 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.

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 Fall 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.