



CCS Online Academy Grading Guidance for 3rd and 4th Quarters April 23, 2020

Columbus City Schools has established its PreK-12 grading system for the 3rd and 4th grading periods during this continued time of online learning.

The Departments of Academic Services and Accountability presented their recommendation to the Columbus Board of Education on Tuesday, April 21. [Click here to watch the presentation.](#)

Elementary (PreK-5) Grading for 3rd Quarter

- The grading period for the 3rd Quarter, which ended March 24, will be extended to May 1, 2020. This allows our students the opportunity to **improve** their grades for the third grading period if any had not completed assignments, were absent prior to the governor's order, or were caught off guard by the closure.
- No student will see their grade lowered or harmed by extending the 3rd Quarter grading period.

Elementary (Grades PreK-5) Grading for 4th Quarter

- Elementary teachers will use the following marks for the 4th Quarter:
 - Pass (P) – the student is completing work and learning.
 - Incomplete (I) – there is limited or no evidence of work completed or the student could not be reached.
- Any student receiving an Incomplete (I) will be given until September 15, 2020, to complete their work and have their grade adjusted to a Pass (P).
- Standards that are not assessed during the 4th Quarter will be marked as Not Evaluated (N) during this period.

Secondary (Grades 6-12) Grading for 3rd Quarter

- The grading period for the 3rd Quarter, which ended March 24, will be extended to May 1, 2020. This allows our students the opportunity to **improve** their grades for the third grading period if any had not completed assignments, were absent prior to the governor's order, or were caught off guard by the closure.
- No student will see their grade lowered or harmed by extending the 3rd Quarter grading period.

Secondary (Grades 6-12) Grading for 4th Quarter

- Secondary teachers will use the following marks for the 4th Quarter:
 - Pass (P) – the student is completing work and learning.
 - Incomplete (I) – there is limited or no evidence of work completed or the student could not be reached.
- Any student receiving an Incomplete (I) will be given until September 15, 2020, to complete their work and have their grade adjusted to a Pass (P).
- There will not be any final exams given for secondary courses for the 2019-2020 school year.
- The grading system of (P) or (I) will apply to Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses.
- College Credit Plus (CCP) courses will follow the college or university guidance.
- High school students who are currently not on track to meet graduation requirements will focus on credit recovery through the Edmentum platform. See below for more information.

Calculating Final Grades and GPA for Secondary (Grades 6-12)

- A Grade Point Average (GPA) will display as a “0” for the 4th Quarter but will have no impact on the student’s cumulative GPA.
- The final grade for a secondary course will be calculated by equal distribution of the Quarter 1, 2, and 3 percentages or Quality Points calculation for three quarters -- whichever is higher.
- Second-semester courses will indicate the 3rd quarter grade and the final grade as the same. The (P) or (I) will still be used for the 4th quarter but will have no bearing on the final grade or credit.

Elementary and Secondary Grading Guidance and Support

- Teachers will continue to incorporate a focus on individualized educational plan (IEP) goals for students receiving special education services.
- Assignments will be due at least one week or more after the lessons are assigned, allowing ample time for students to complete the assignments. Accommodations will be made for students who may need extra time to submit completed work or who are unable to access the internet.

Third Grade Reading Guarantee

H.B. 197, emergency legislation to address the COVID-19 pandemic in Ohio, waived the state tests for the 2019-2020 school year. Since there is no test for the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, the student's principal and reading teacher will review the student's reading skills to see if the student is academically prepared to be promoted to fourth grade.

Graduation Requirements

H.B. 197, emergency legislation to address the COVID-19 pandemic in Ohio, specifies that students who were on track to graduate at the end of the third quarter will remain on track regardless of the extended school closure. **If a senior student who was on track to graduate prior to the statewide school closure, they will remain on track through the fourth quarter.**

Students who were not on track can satisfy the requirements through online coursework during the closure. State minimum requirements will be used for Cohorts 2018, 2019, and 2020 due to this pandemic. This eliminates the following requirements for the Class of 2020, in addition to students in the Classes of 2018 and 2019 who still need to complete requirements:

- Technology Course credit
- Additional Elective Course credit
- 120 internship hours

The District will reinstate these graduation requirements for the Class of 2021 and beyond.

Grading and Athletic Eligibility

- This grading system allows the District to follow eligibility bylaws of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) pending approval by the Columbus Board of Education. Students must earn passing grades in at least five one-credit courses or equivalent (semester courses) to be eligible to compete in athletics in the Fall.
- For student-athletes considering playing at the collegiate level, the NCAA Eligibility Center only considers transcribed final grades. Any Pass (P) or Incomplete (I) grades will not be on a student's final transcript and will not negatively impact future NCAA eligibility.

Statement From Superintendent/CEO Dr. Talisa Dixon

This grading system provides flexibility for our students, their families, and our educators during this period of online at-home learning. We want to provide meaningful educational experiences for our students, but we also want to ensure that by doing so, we are not

harming our students who have varying levels of access to technology and support at home.

Our students' remote learning conditions are largely out of their control, so we want to be as flexible and as supportive as possible and take into account the social-emotional needs of our students. This grading system allows students the flexibility of time to complete their work and will not unduly penalize those with limited access to the internet. We understand that these are difficult times for everyone -- students, families, educators -- and that our grading system cannot be the same as it is during a typical school year setting.