

Administrative Accommodations Overview

Even in non-pandemic times, students have a variety of academic administrative accommodations available to them. The list below is not meant to be exhaustive, nor is any overview of process meant to supersede specific departmental or college processes. For all such accommodations, undergraduate and professional students should consult with their home college. Graduate students should consult with their home department and/or the Graduate College.

- Incompletes (“I” grades) indicate an approved extension of time to complete the final exam or other course requirements. Details are available in the [Student Code](#). Students who believe they could benefit from an I grade should consult with their instructor. The process for and final approval of an I grade is handled at the college level, so students will need to reach out to their home college.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) is also usually requested through the student’s home college. Further information on eligibility for CR/NC is detailed in the [Student Code](#).
- For Spring 2021, CR/NC is replaced with a Pass COVID/No Pass COVID (PZ/NZ) grading option. Information on this temporary grade mode is detailed throughout this document, as well as in the companion Academic Policy Modifications – Spring 2021 document.
- The [Campus Grade Replacement Policy](#) is for undergraduate students who wish to retake an eligible course and not have the first instance of that course factor into their GPA. Forms and processes for Grade Replacement requests are available from the student’s home college.
- Home college offices for undergraduates and home departments or the Graduate College are where students can find information and forms for requests for enrollment below [full-time status](#) (underload) and for more than the maximum hours for that specific Fall, Spring, or Summer term (overload). Enrolling in less than full-time status can have serious implications for student status, including but not limited to visa eligibility for international students, scholarship and financial aid requirements, and NCAA eligibility for student-athletes, so it is important that students considering an underload consult with their academic advisor and carefully consider potential ramifications.
- College offices also have processes around and forms for late [adds and drops of courses](#), as well as for retroactive course drops. Late and retroactive drop petitions typically require students to detail extenuating circumstances that prevented them from taking action to drop the course within the posted deadlines.
- Students needing to [cancel](#) their registration or [withdraw](#) from the semester should also work with their college office to access the appropriate form.
- Students who are placed on [drop status](#) at the end of a term or who have taken time off for academic or other reasons and wish to return can work with their college office to complete appropriate petitions for these requests to be considered. Each academic unit has strict deadlines for such petitions, so it is important for students to consult early and often with the college office.

Spring 2021 Academic Policy Modifications – Pass COVID/No Pass COVID

- The Pass COVID/No Pass COVID (PZ/NZ) grading option is selected by students, replacing the Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) grading for the Spring 2021 semester. CR/NC is not available for Spring 2021.

- Pass COVID (PZ) is awarded when a grade of D- or higher is earned in the course. Courses in Spring 2021 in which PZ is earned will satisfy major, minor, and General Education requirements.
- No Pass COVID (NZ) is used when receiving failing grades in the course (F or ABS).
- PZ/NZ grades are not counted toward the grade-point average, but courses in which students earn PZ are included as part of the total earned credit hours. NZ grades do not count towards earned hours.
- Instructors are not informed of those students in their classes who elect the PZ/NZ option, and they report the usual letter grades at the end of the course. These grades are then automatically converted.
- Final grades of PZ or NZ are recorded on the student's permanent academic record and subsequently will not be changed to letter grades.
- Similarly, Spring 2021 courses transferred in from other institutions and articulated as fulfilling major, minor, and/or General Education requirements with passing grades from that institution's equivalent of pass/fail grading can be used toward major, minor, and General Education requirements.
- As outlined in the [Student Code](#), there is a maximum total hours of CR/NC course work that can count toward degree requirements. Courses with either PZ/NZ grades in the Spring 2021 semester or courses transferred in from another institution using the equivalent of that status, will not count toward this maximum.
- Online and graduate courses are included in this temporary PZ/NZ grading modification.
- Students with either a pending academic integrity infraction or a resolved academic integrity infraction resulting in a sanction of a failing course grade may NOT elect PZ/NZ grading for the affected course, in accordance with the [Student Code](#).
- PZ/NZ grading is not available to students in College of Law programs (JSD, JD, LL.M, and MSL) or students enrolled in the MD program in the Carle Illinois College of Medicine or the DVM program in the College of Veterinary Medicine.
- PZ/NZ grading can be selected through an online form, which will be made available after final grade roll on May 21, 2021.
- **The deadline to select PZ/NZ for both undergraduate and graduate students is Thursday, May 27, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. Central Time.**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Students

- **What factors should I consider in making the decision to elect PZ/NZ?**
 - No decisions are necessary until **11:59 p.m. Central Time, May 27, 2021** so these factors should all be considered carefully. This is not an exhaustive list!
 - Have I talked with my academic advisor and considered their recommendation?
 - Is a specified letter grade required in the course for eligibility to transfer into a different major or as a prerequisite for enrollment in a subsequent course?

- Is graduate or professional school in my future? If so, do I have the information I need to be confident in my decision about how the programs in which I'm interested view PZ/NZ on the transcript?
 - Many health profession schools will not accept PZ/NZ or the equivalent in prerequisite courses. Be sure to check directly with any such schools if a health profession is in your future plans.
 - [PZ/NZ can negatively affect a student's competitiveness when applying to law school.](#)
 - Is a career with outside licensure or accreditation in my future? If so, do I have the information I need to be confident in my decision as to how these professions view PZ/NZ on the transcript?
 - If an internship is part of my academic plans, what are the impacts of PZ/NZ on my eligibility for this internship?
 - If in an honors program, is this a course I'm taking for honors credit? Honors (H) grading is incompatible with PZ/NZ, so I lose the ability to have the honors designation if I elect PZ/NZ.
 - Am I confident the letter grade posted for my course is accurate? Is it possible my grade could have been miscalculated? If I have any questions or uncertainty about this, have I discussed them with my instructor?
- **How do I submit a request for PZ/NZ?**
 - An online form will be made available after final grades are available in Self-Service.
 - **The deadline to submit this form to elect or rescind PZ/NZ grading is Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. Central Time.**
 - Standard letter grades will continue to appear until processing of PZ/NZ requests is complete.
 - **How quickly should I make my decision to request PZ/NZ?**
 - Engage in your courses. Decisions can be made until **11:59 p.m. Central Time, May 27, 2021**, which means you will be able to see your final grade when it is posted and make a decision accordingly.
 - **Do I have to separately request PZ/NZ for each of my courses?**
 - Yes. This is a course-by-course decision. You may request none, one, two... all of your courses to be PZ/NZ. As noted above, there is no limit on the number of courses/hours a student can place on PZ/NZ status this semester. Your request(s) should consider both your progress in the individual course as well as your overall academic load for the semester.
 - **Do I have to ask my instructor for approval of PZ/NZ?**
 - No. The decision to elect PZ/NZ grading is your decision as a student; however, seeking advice from your academic advisor or college office is important in helping you make your decision.

- **How does PZ/NZ impact my GPA?**
 - The grades of PZ and NZ will not be included in the calculation of your GPA.
- **I was planning to transfer to a different major on campus. Will a grade of PZ be accepted for a course required for transfer?**
 - You should check with the college into which you intend to transfer to find out specifics. Some programs/majors require or at least recommend certain letter grade minimums.
- **I'm thinking about graduate or professional school. Will PZ grading be accepted by those schools?**
 - For graduate and professional programs, GPA is an important consideration, and specifically science GPA, for many health professions (*e.g.*, for medical schools, biology, chemistry, math, physics). PZ/NZ is not calculated into your overall GPA, and courses on PZ/NZ status won't be calculated into your science GPA. Pre-Health advising recommends maintaining the graded option for the sciences, particularly prerequisite courses.
 - As always, you should check with each graduate or professional institution to which you intend to apply as to if/how they are modifying their admissions criteria for students' Spring 2021 coursework.
- **What about employers?**
 - We anticipate that going PZ/NZ in a **limited number of courses** is not going to impact candidacy for most jobs or internships, but you should check directly with the entity from which you have received the offer and consult with The Career Center if needed.
 - **Employment that involves professional accreditation or licensure is more likely to be impacted.** Students pursuing these fields should definitely consult with their academic advisor. For example, requirements to be a Certified Public Accountant vary state to state, so consultation with your advisor about your specific situation is critical.
- **I have a financial aid package. Will PZ/NZ impact my aid?**
 - Because scholarships, fellowships, grants, and even some loans have specific requirements for GPA and/or minimums on graded credit, all students with any type of financial aid should consult directly with the [Office of Student Financial Aid](#) about their individual situation.
- **I'm in a teacher certification program. Will PZ grades be acceptable in courses that fulfill certification requirements?**
 - Yes. As long as you pass with a PZ, credit is earned and the course will fulfill certification requirements.
- **If I am currently on academic probation, am I eligible to take courses PZ/NZ?**
 - Students on academic probation are permitted to select courses for PZ/NZ grading for the Spring 2021 semester.

- **I'm taking a class for Grade Replacement. Can I use the PZ/NZ option for this class?**
 - No. Electing PZ/NZ grading mode automatically rescinds the Grade Replacement request.
- **Will my honors program status be negatively impacted if I take courses PZ/NZ?**
 - Possibly; please check with your college's honors director or with the Campus Honors Program.
- **Can I switch a course for which I had completed an Honors Credit Learning Agreement (HCLA) to PZ/NZ? Can I still earn honors for that course?**
 - PZ/NZ is incompatible with Honors (H) grading, so you will not earn honors for classes switched to PZ/NZ. Please discuss with your college's honors program director to help you make the most well-informed decision.
- **How will the options impact the Dean's List?**
 - To be eligible for Spring 2021 Dean's List recognition, students must: 1) earn a minimum of 12 hours of UIUC course credit with standard letter grades; 2) be in good academic standing as defined by their college at the end of the term; and 3) have a grade point average in the top 20 percent of their college class.
- **I'm in a NetMath course. Can I elect PZ/NZ for it?**
 - Degree-seeking UIUC students may elect PZ/NZ for a NetMath course if you began or completed the course between January 25, 2021 and May 14, 2021. Courses completed prior to January 25, 2021 and courses completed by non-degree students prior to becoming degree-seeking students (for example, a high school student taking NetMath) are not eligible for PZ/NZ grading.
- **What will my transcript look like with PZ/NZ?**
 - The grades of PZ and NZ will appear just like any other grade on your transcript; however, as stated above, these grades will not impact the calculation of your GPA. The university's [Transcript Key – Grade Explanation Information](#) will be updated to include PZ and NZ as grades and symbols excluded from calculation of GPA.
- **If I choose PZ/NZ, can I change my mind later?**
 - Not after the deadline. As students have until after the end of the semester and the posting of grades to make this decision, there will not be flexibility after the May 27, 2021 deadline to elect or rescind PZ/NZ. You are expected to consult with your advisor and other relevant sources (*e.g.*, academic mentor, pre-health/pre-law advising if applicable, etc.) to feel confident you are making the right choice. **You have until 11:59 p.m. Central Time, May 27, 2021, to make this decision.**