

Pass/Fail and Financial Aid

It is important to understand how the switch to pass/fail grading will affect your grade point average. The school's policy has always been that a "fail" would count toward your GPA the same as failing a course with a letter grade would. In contrast, a "pass" does not affect your GPA. All rules about scholarships and academic standing will remain in effect. **Consult your scholarship award letters and the Student Handbook for more information.**

Federal financial aid policies are still in place for Satisfactory Academic Progress, as defined on our website at, <https://carey.jhu.edu/student-experience/services-resources/financial-aid/policies/satisfactory-academic-progress>

Fall 2020 SAP Policy Update

Students who do not have a cumulative GPA after the end of the full fall term will be evaluated using an alternative qualitative measure. The evaluation will be based on the number of passing courses completed out of the total attempted. **This only applies to students that have not earned a cumulative GPA at the completion of the full fall term.** The cumulative GPA is determined at the end of each term, based on all semesters completed.

Number of * Attempted Courses	Number of Passing Courses
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	3
5	4
6	5
7	6
8	6
9	7
10	8
11	9

*** All courses in which a student is enrolled as of the 1st day of the term/session are considered attempted credits. Classes dropped/withdrawn after the term/session begins are considered attempted.**

In addition, If you receive all FAILS or F's we will have to determine whether it was earned or we will be subject to the rules of the Return of Title IV processing (R2T4) and may have to return federal aid already received for the current term. The Title IV funds policy is on our website at, <https://carey.jhu.edu/student-experience/services-resources/financial-aid/policies/title-iv-funds>

FAQ's

If I already have a cumulative GPA above the 2.85 threshold and take a pass/fail course, how will my financial aid, scholarships and/or federal loans, be affected?

It would only be affected if you receive a fail as this is treated as an F and will be calculated as 0 points towards your cumulative GPA, reducing your overall GPA.

How will pass/fail grades affect my financial aid, scholarships and/or federal loans, if I receive all passing grades and no letter grades in my first term of enrollment?

“Pass” does not affect your GPA. Therefore, if you have any form of financial aid or scholarship, we will review your academic standing based on the number of passing courses at the end of the full fall term. (See chart above)

How will pass/fail grades affect my financial aid, scholarships and/or federal loans, if I receive a failing grade in one or more class?

Your GPA will be affected if you receive a fail, which it will be calculated as 0 points in your cumulative GPA. Also, if you receive all fails we have to determine if they were earned grades. If not, federal aid may need to be returned for the current term based in the Title IV funds policy. If your GPA is less than 2.85 after the end of fall you will not be meeting academic standards.

However, if you do not have a cumulative GPA then we will evaluate your academic standing based on the alternative qualitative measure listed above.

If I'm receiving financial aid, scholarships and/or federal loans, can I choose to take letter grades for some courses and pass/fail for others?

The financial aid policy for good academic standing is the same whether you take some courses as graded or others as pass/fail. Please discuss this option with your advisor before choosing pass/fail. Remember, if you have a cumulative GPA after fall it must be above 2.85. If you do not have a GPA we will follow the alternative qualitative measure based on the number of passing courses.

Can I drop or withdraw a class that is for pass/fail grade?

Yes, however all courses in which a student is enrolled as of the 1st day of the term/session are considered attempted credits. Classes dropped/withdrawn after the term/session begins are considered attempted for both the pass/fail alternative measure (above) and the minimum cumulative completion rate (67%).

This policy is separate from the add/drop registration [policy](#) for tuition refunds.