

Pass/Fail Financial Aid Guidelines

Below are some general financial aid guidelines and implications for students selecting the pass/fail grading option for spring 2020:

GPA: GPA will not be impacted for students currently making satisfactory academic progress and choose the S, P or U option for all their courses. However, for students who choose a combination of pass/fail and letter grades, their GPA will be recalculated (for the letter grades) to determine their GPA for the next semester.

Completion Rate: Students must pass at least 67% of their courses to maintain eligibility for financial aid. Therefore, students who receive any U grades under the pass/fail option could be impacted if their completion rate drops below 67%.

Maximum Time-Frame/Hours: Any S, P or U grades will count towards attempted hours and could cause a student to exceed their maximum time-frame/hours, which would impact a student's eligibility for financial aid.

Students who are currently on financial aid probation, and receive grades of S, P or U, will not be eligible for an extended probation without submitting another SAP appeal form which will go to the committee for review. Students currently on financial aid probation will receive additional information by email from the Financial Aid Office.

State Aid Implications of Pass/Fail Grade Option:

The regulations for State Aid programs (MTAG, MESH, HELP) will remain the same. Students must pass/earn at least 15 credit hours and also meet the minimum GPA requirements to remain eligible for state aid scholarships.

For students who choose a combination of pass/fail and letter grades, their GPA will be recalculated (for the letter grades) to determine their GPA for the next semester. Grades of S/P/U will not be factored into GPA.

Choosing the pass/fail option will not affect enrollment hours, however can impact pass/earn hours.

"S/P" grades will count toward earned hours. However, "U" grades will not be factored into earned hours, therefore can impact state aid eligibility.

Example: Student is enrolled in 15 credit hours and decides to use pass/fail option for one course (3 credit hours). The GPA will be calculated for the remaining 12 credit hours. If student receives a "S/P" grade, maintains the minimum GPA, (and earns at least 15 hours for spring) student would still be eligible for state aid for fall (as long as student enrolls in at least 15 credit hours for fall). If student receives a "U" grade, maintains the minimum GPA, student would NOT be eligible for state aid for fall because student would not have earned at least 15 credit hours.

Example:

Student is enrolled in 15 credit hours and decides to use pass/fail option for one course (3 credit hours). The GPA will be calculated for the remaining 12 credit hours.

If student receives a “S/P” grade, maintains the minimum GPA, (and earns at least 15 hours for spring) student would still be eligible for state aid for fall (as long as student enrolls in at least 15 credit hours for fall).

If student receives a “U” grade, maintains the minimum GPA, student would NOT be eligible for state aid for fall because student would not have earned at least 15 credit hours.

Students affected by the coronavirus and are unable to pass/earn at least 15 credit hours (drop course/withdrew), can submit an appeal to the State Aid Office at <https://www.msfinancialaid.org/appeal/> .

The State Aid Office does not accept appeals related to GPA issues.

If you have specific questions about your eligibility, please email one of the following financial aid staff members:

Ms. Vickie Edmonds

Vickie.edmonds@msstate.edu

Ms. Casey King

Cam216@msstate.edu

Thanks

The Financial Aid Office