

COVID 19 Policy Exemptions

Academic Standing

Academic Standing will not be processed at the end of spring semester *or summer term* due to the numerous challenges to student learning created by the COVID-19 disruption. Student Academic Standing will remain unchanged between the beginning of spring *and fall semesters* with one notable exception. Students who began spring semester below Good Standing (e.g., Academic Probation or Academic Dismissal) will be individually reviewed to identify students who have achieved Good Standing. If a student returns to Good Standing after spring semester or summer term, their academic record will be updated.

Grades

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) issued guidance on May 15, 2020, indicating that a withdrawal on any date during a payment period containing March 13, 2020, could be considered as related to COVID-19 if the institution experienced a closure or move to online instruction.

If a student withdrew, either officially or unofficially, from a class in the Spring 2019-20 semester a COVID-related grade was assigned to identify it easily. Please note: An F/U grade is considered an unofficial withdraw and carries the same weight as an official withdraw associated with the W grade.

The following grades issued with a Last Date of Attendance (LDA) before April 28, 2020 will reflect accordingly

- All spring withdrawals will be entered as WC for students who withdrew from on-ground courses. This would include WR1, WR2, and WR3.
- All students receiving an F will have an FC Grade. This grade would carry the weight of an F, but be excluded from the pace calculation in Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).
- All students receiving an U will have an UC Grade. This grade would carry the weight of an U, but be excluded from the pace calculation in Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).
- Students with an LDA of April 28, 2020 or later are considered to have earned the failing grade.

Ongoing Enrollment

Ongoing Enrollment requirements will be suspended for those students that did not earn at least three credits during the Spring 2019-20 semester. Students that did not maintain Ongoing Enrollment will not lose their catalog year or program of study due to insufficient credits earned during the COVID-19 disruption.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

The CARES Act, passed on 3/27/2020, provides flexibility for the treatment of course withdrawals for the purpose of measuring Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Students who withdrew from coursework in the Spring 2019-20 semester and received a COVID-related grade (WC, FC, or UC), will have that grade exempted from the completion rate calculation in the SAP Policy. The FC grade will be calculated into the student's GPA, carrying the same weight as a grade of F.

Withdrawal & Return to Title IV (R2T4)

Students who withdrew from the Spring 2019-20 semester, receiving all COVID-related grades, are exempt from the R2T4 policy for that semester. Their withdrawal will be reported to the National Student Loan Database System (NSLDS) for the purpose of loan forgiveness, subsidized loan usage forgiveness, and Pell lifetime usage forgiveness. Students are not expected to repay the aid received for this semester.