

# Frequently Asked Questions

## GRADING FOR GRADUATING SENIORS: CLASS of 2020

Approved-NC State Board of Education-March 27, 2020

### Why did the State Board of Education (SBE) create this policy?

The SBE and NCDPI goals for the Senior Class of 2020 are to minimize the negative impacts of COVID-19 as much as possible and to graduate high school seniors by meeting SBE graduation requirements of 22 credits.

### Will my senior graduate this school year?

#### Overview

- Remote learning opportunities are available to engage students, continue student growth, and respond to social and emotional needs.
- Remote learning for graduating seniors will be prioritized to focus on meeting minimum graduation requirements with an emphasis on students who were not meeting expectations as of March 13, 2020.
- Grading practices for graduating seniors will hold students harmless for the impact of COVID-19. NCDPI developed a new grade scale of Pass or Withdraw due to COVID-19, "PC19" and "WC19".
- NC Colleges and universities indicate that they see the plan for graduating seniors to be reasonable and do not foresee any negative impact on students who have already been admitted to their institutions or awarded scholarships. They also have been asked to extend grace and flexibility to any waitlisted students or those who were using the spring semester of 2020 to try to meet a certain benchmark.

### What grades will graduating Seniors receive this year?

#### Only the state minimum graduation requirements of 22 credits will apply to the graduating Class of 2020

- **Fall Courses:** Students will receive grades for fall courses as already stored, year-long and semester. Fall grades will count toward GPA.
  - For year-long courses, the fall term grade will be counted into the GPA.
  - For semester-long courses, the final course grade will be counted into the GPA.
- **Spring Courses:** Students will receive a Pass "PC19" or Withdrawal "WC19" based on their learning as of March 13 for all spring courses in progress on that date. If the student had an F as of March 13 for graduation requirements, districts/schools shall provide remote learning opportunities for the student to improve to a passing grade.
- Opportunities for seniors to pass graduation requirements include:
  - participate in remote learning through the school
  - enroll in NC Virtual Public School as needed
  - participate in credit recovery aligned to instructional topics covered through March 13
  - pass a final locally-developed assessment aligned to instructional topics covered through March 13 which could be in a variety of formats, including but not limited to a portfolio, interview, teacher-made test, project, and/or some other performance-based measure.

### What about the CPR Requirement that my student was unable to complete before COVID-19?

The SBE has waived the CPR requirement for the graduating Class of 2020.

### What about Occupational Course of Study (OCS) students?

- An OCS student planning to graduate in spring 2020 can meet the "paid work hours" graduation requirement by completing 157 hours rather than the original requirement of 225 hours.

Grading information for NC public school students in grades K-11 or seniors who are not graduating in June 2020 is available at: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/news/covid-19-response-resources>

