

**Undergraduate Pass/No Pass FAQs
Spring 2020**

USC Academic FAQs: <https://sites.usc.edu/coronavirus/students-academic-faqs/>

Additional FAQs:

Q. Can I take my freshman forgiveness class course as Pass/No Pass?

Yes, a student taking a course for freshman forgiveness may change their grade option to Pass/No Pass. The Pass/No Pass grade will stand and their original grade will be excused from their GPA. Both grades will be reported on their final transcript.

Q. If I take one (or more) General Education courses as Pass/No Pass in Spring 2020, can I still take one more GE course as P/NP in the future?

Students can exceed the “one GE P/NP” policy during Spring 2020 only. This policy will be enforced again in subsequent semesters. Students may choose to take as many GE courses as they like on a P/NP basis during Spring 2020 but once the Spring 2020 semester is over, if a student has already taken any GE courses on a P/NP basis, they will not be able to take any more. <https://dornsife.usc.edu/2015ge/ge-policies-during-covid-19/>

Q. If I change from a letter grade to Pass/No Pass, do I have the option to switch back to a letter grade before the deadline?

Yes, as long as you switch back before the deadline of May 27, 2020

Q. How will Pass/No Pass impact pre-med courses?

The Pre-Health Office is *recommending* that students can take one, or at most, two courses P/NP this semester, in the event you may be experiencing difficult circumstances with the reminder to be mindful that professional school programs might require specific prerequisites to be completed with letter grades. Various professional school programs will likely be flexible with



the P/NP option this semester and will look towards overall GPA trends to help in the evaluation process of their candidates.

Q. What is considered a passing grade for Pass?

If you take the course for a letter grade, then a D- or above is considered passing. If you take the course as Pass/No Pass, then a C- or above will result in a Pass grade. D+ or below will result in a No Pass grade. *[Note that PDP students' grad courses are treated separately, please refer to Viterbi Graduate FAQs]*

Q. Will a Pass/No Pass grade affect my status in the Undergraduate Honors Program?

There is no expected impact. Admissions to the honors program is based on your cumulative GPA and Pass/No Pass courses do not contribute to your GPA.

Q. Will Pass/No Pass courses affect ABET accreditation?

Viterbi's ABET accreditation will not be impacted by these Pass/No Pass options.

Q. Do Pass/No Pass courses affect my GPA?

Courses taken Pass/No Pass will not contribute grade points toward a student's GPA.

Q. If an international student is in 12 units and takes a course Pass/No Pass but then does not pass, would this affect their full-time status?

As long as a student is enrolled as a full time, then changing your enrollments to a Pass/No Pass grading basis for the Spring 2020 semester will not impact your status regardless of whether the student received a No Pass.

Q. How will Pass/No Pass impact my plans to apply for a USC Viterbi Progressive Degree Program (PDP)?

USC Viterbi Graduate Admissions are aware of the circumstances regarding the Pass/No Pass options for the Spring 2020 semester and will ensure it does not impact the review of your application to a USC Viterbi Progressive Degree Program.

Q. If I am completed an incomplete (IN) grade from a previous semester, can I do Pass/No Pass?

Incomplete course from previous semesters must be completed for a letter grade.

Q. When will I be able to change my grading option to No Record?

The No Record option will become available on May 4, 2020.

If you have additional questions, please email viterbi.studentservices@usc.edu.