



Book	VCCCD Administrative Procedure Manual
Section	Chapter 4 Academic Affairs
Title	AP 4230 Grading and Academic Record Symbols
Code	AP 4230
Status	Active
Legal	Title 5, Section 55023 Title 5, Section 55024 Title 5, Section 55050 Title 5, Section 58509 Title 5, Section 59300
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Evaluative Symbols:

The following evaluative symbols will be used to measure student work:

- A – Excellent (4 points per semester unit)
- B – Good (3 points per semester unit)
- C – Satisfactory (2 points per semester unit)
- D – Less than satisfactory (1 point per semester unit)
- F – Failing (0 point per semester unit)

P – Pass, C or better – At least satisfactory (Units awarded not counted in GPA. Replaced CR effective Fall 2009.)

NP – No Pass, less than satisfactory, or failing (Units not counted in GPA. Replaced NC effective Fall 2009.)

SP – Satisfactory Progress towards completion of the course (Used for noncredit courses only and is not supplanted by any other symbol.)

CRE – Credit by Exam (Units awarded not counted in GPA. Effective Summer 2015, students receive a letter grade. See [AP 4235 Credit For Prior Learning](#).)

Grades from the letter grading scale shall be averaged on the basis of the numerical grade point equivalencies to determine a student's grade point average.

Noncredit courses may be graded using Pass/No Pass grading or letter grades as determined by the faculty and reflected on the course outline of record. Letter grades for non-credit courses will not generate or factor into cumulative grade point averages.

Non-Evaluative Symbols:

The District Governing Board has authorized the use of the non-evaluative symbols "I," "IP," "RD," "W," "MW," and "EW" defined as follows:

I - Incomplete

Students who are at the end of a term and have failed to complete the required academic work of a course because of unforeseeable, emergency, and justifiable reasons may receive a symbol "I" (Incomplete) on their records.

The conditions for receiving a letter grade and for the removal of the "I" must be stated by the instructor in a written record which must also state the grade to be assigned in lieu of the removal of the "I." This record must be given to the student and a copy is to be placed on file with the Registrar until the conditions are met (the "I" is made up) or the time limit is passed.

A final grade shall be assigned when the work stipulated has been completed and evaluated, or when the time limit for completing the work has passed. The "I" may be made up no later than one year following the end of the term for which it was assigned. The "I" symbol shall not be used in calculating units attempted or for grade point averages. Under no circumstances shall a faculty member permit a student who is no longer enrolled to attend a course for the purpose of completing required work for an incomplete.

IP – In Progress

The "IP" symbol shall be used only in those courses that extend beyond the normal end of an academic term. It indicates that work is "in progress," but that assignment of an evaluative symbol (grade) must await its completion. The appropriate evaluative symbol (grade) and unit credit shall be assigned and replace the IP symbol once the course is completed. The "IP" shall not be used in calculating grade point averages.

RD - Report Delayed

The "RD" symbol may be assigned by the Registrar only. It is to be used when there is a delay in reporting the grade of a student due to circumstances beyond the control of the student. It is a temporary notation to be replaced by a permanent symbol as soon as possible. "RD" shall not be used in calculating grade point averages.

W - Withdrawal

Students may withdraw from a class by the end of the third week of a full-semester length class or by 16% of the total meetings in a short-term class without any notation being recorded in the permanent academic record.

Withdrawals that occur after the third week of a full-semester length class or 16% of a short term class shall be recorded as a "W" on students' permanent academic records. "W" grades will be counted as one of the three enrollment attempts that students are allowed in order to achieve a standard (passing) grade of C/P or better in a course. They will also be counted in the calculation of a student's academic progress to determine academic standing (e.g. good standing, probation or dismissal).

Withdrawals shall not be permitted after the 14th week of a full-semester length class or 75% of total class meetings in a short-term class. Students who are actively enrolled after that point shall receive a grade other than "W" in the permanent academic record. Exception may be made if approved upon petition by the student and documentation of verifiable extenuating circumstances, and after consultation with appropriate faculty. Withdrawals approved by exception shall be recorded as a "W" on students' permanent academic record.

Appropriate faculty is notified of withdrawals on their summary class roster.

"W" grades shall not be assigned, or if assigned shall be removed, from the permanent academic record if determination is made pursuant to Title 5, Sections 59300 et. seq. that a student withdrew from a course due to discriminatory treatment or due to retaliation for alleging discriminatory treatment.

"W" grades shall not be assigned when withdrawal was necessary due to fire, flood, or other extraordinary conditions, pursuant to Title 5, Section 58509. Such withdrawal must be petitioned by the student and supported by documentation of circumstances.

MW – Military Withdrawal

Military withdrawal occurs when a student on active or reserve status in the United States military or National Guard receives orders compelling a withdrawal from courses. Upon verification of such orders, the military withdrawal symbol "MW" shall be assigned to all courses affected by the military withdrawal.

Students requesting military withdrawal must present a petition for withdrawal and a copy of the military orders, or other acceptable documentation, which verifies the dates and location of military assignment that compelled or compels withdrawal from classes.

A grade of "MW" shall be recorded on the permanent academic record upon approval of petition for military withdrawal. "MW" grades shall not be counted as one of the three enrollment attempts allowed to achieve a standard (passing) grade of C/P or better, or in the calculation of a student's academic progress for the determination of academic standing.

EW – Excused Withdrawal

The "EW" symbol may be used to denote withdrawal in accordance with Title 5 Section 55024. An EW symbol may be requested by the student at any time during the semester and no later than the date when the district/college policy allows a grade change. Excused Withdrawal shall not be counted in progress probation or dismissal calculations nor shall it be counted towards the permitted number of withdrawals or counted as an enrollment attempt. The financial aid of a student may be affected depending on individual circumstance. A student should consult with the financial aid staff regarding any impact.

An EW is acceptable when a student withdraws from a course(s) due to extenuating circumstances beyond their control, which include but are not limited to, the following:

- Job transfer outside the geographical region;

- Illness in the family where the student is the primary caregiver;
- An incarcerated student in a California State Prison or County Jail is released from custody or involuntarily transferred before the end of the term (In the case of an incarcerated student, an excused withdrawal cannot be applied if the failure to complete the course(s) was the result of a student's behavioral violation or if the student requested and was granted a mid-semester transfer);
- The student is the subject of an immigration action;
- Death of an immediate family member;
- Chronic or acute illness;
- Verifiable accidents; or
- Natural disasters directly affecting the student.

"Extenuating circumstances" means cases of accidents, illnesses, or other circumstances beyond the control of the student. Colleges shall proactively engage with the student or their representative to identify available college support services that may mitigate the extenuating circumstances and prevent withdrawal. If mitigation efforts are unsuccessful, the student shall receive the excused withdrawal symbol ("EW") on their transcript. Students shall not be denied an excused withdrawal due to a college's inability to respond to the petition or to provide sufficient assistance to mitigate the student's circumstances

An excused withdrawal shall be assigned if a determination is made that the student withdrew from a course due to unlawful discrimination or retaliation.

An excused withdrawal shall be assigned if a student withdraws from a course due an extraordinary condition under section 58509.

Reference [Board Policy BP 4230](#).

Governance Review

2022 04.29 Consultation Council

2022 04.25 Chancellor's Cabinet

2022 04.14 DTRW-SS