

# Spring 2020 Academic Policies

General Guidance for College of Engineering Undergraduate Students

This document is designed to assist students in understanding the impact of the UTA policy changes for the spring 2020 term. Prior to contacting an [academic advisor](#), read this document in its entirety.

This document includes:

- Drop Policy
- P/F Grading Option

## Drop Policy

A student may drop a course(s) until the [April 28 deadline](#) (refer to the Academic Planning and Calendar section).

UTA: For courses dropped between, March 17 until the drop date deadline:

- once the spring grades post, the W(s) will convert to a Q(s)
- the drop will not count against the [6 drop limit](#)

COE: With respect to the [COE 3 Attempt Rule](#), a Q does not count as a course attempt

## Pass/Fail (P/F) Grading Option

A student may elect the P/F option until May 22.

There are many aspects to take into consideration, for both UTA and the COE regulations, when deciding if the P/F grading option is the best option.

UTA:

1. The default grading system remains unchanged, i.e. ABCDF for most courses. If no action is taken, a letter grade is earned.
2. A student can elect the P/F option for a single course, several courses or up to all courses.
3. Not all courses are eligible for P/F grading
  - a. The courses that are eligible can be found [here](#)
  - b. Verify eligibility of any courses being considered for the P/F option.

## P/F vs. Grading System

1. If choosing P/F grading, a grade of P will be assigned if an A, B, C or D is earned.
2. A grade of P will not impact GPA calculations; A letter grade will have its usual implications.
3. Under both the P/F and ABCDF grading system options, earning an F has the same effect on GPA and carries the same consequences (i.e. for the COE 3-attempt policy, counts as a course attempt).

4. If a P is earned after electing the P/F option, **the course must be re-taken, and a grade of C or better must be earned if:**
  - a. The course is part of the [pre-professional engineering program](#) (AE, AREN, CE, CS, CSE, EE, IE, ME and SE). These courses require a grade of C or better.
  - b. A subsequent course requires a C grade as a prerequisite. For example, if a C in MATH 1426 is a prerequisite for another course, such as MATH 2425, a P will not satisfy the prerequisite, and Math 1426 must be retaken.

*NOTE: Requiring a grade of C or better is common in COE.*

## Grades Earned: P/F vs. Drop Options

By the time of the P/F deadline, spring 2020 grades will be posted. A determination as to whether a student should request a P/F grade can be made based off of the ABCDF grading system.

### Grade of A or B Earned

If a grade of A or B are earned, best to keep the letter grade

### Grade of C Earned

If a grade of C is earned, the P/F option may be best if:

- The course does not require a grade of C or better
- If opting the P/F option, a student is not required to retake the course to earn a letter grade

### Grade of D Earned

In a course where a grade of C or better is NOT required, and a grade of D was earned, it is in your best interest to request the P/F option. Refer to the [COE pre-professional GPA calculation document](#) or [degree plan](#) for courses where a grade of D will satisfy the degree plan requirement.

In a course where a grade of C or better is required, and a grade of D was earned, it is in your best interest to request the P/F option. By electing the P/F option, the D will not be used in any of the three COE GPA calculations. The course will need to be retaken and a letter grade earned to satisfy the requirement.

### Grade of F Earned

If failing a course(s), consider drop with Q, which carries no GPA penalty (refer to Drop Policy section above). You must drop by the drop date deadline.

For additional information, refer to the following:

- [P/F grading option notice](#) from the Provost Office.
- [P/F FAQ](#) website.

## Financial and Transfer Implications:

It is recommended that students consult with the financial aid ([fao@uta.edu](mailto:fao@uta.edu)), veteran's benefits and/or scholarship offices to determine whether retaking a course after a grade of P will be covered by your benefits. If planning to transfer to another school or apply to graduate school, check with that school to see how a P grade will be received and whether credit will be awarded.

## Process for requesting the Drop and P/F Option

### Drop:

- Contact your major degree advisor and submit the drop form.
- Drop deadline April 28, 4:00 pm.

### P/F Option:

- Refer to the [P/F Grade FAQ](#); How do I change my class to pass/fail?
- Consult your instructor and major degree advisor prior to requesting P/F.
- P/F request deadline May 22
- Submit request: This form is not yet available. The Office of Records is creating an online form. If electing the P/F option, fill out and submit the form electronically. Prior to submitting the form, approval from the professor or an advisor is not required; however, it is recommended. **The form is expected to be available by May 9.**