

Credit Recovery Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Included in this document is a list of frequently asked questions about credit recovery.

1. What is credit recovery?

The term "credit recovery" is used to refer to a block of instruction that is less than the entire Standard Course of Study for the course. Credit recovery delivers a subset of the Standard Course of Study or blueprint of the original course in order to specifically address deficiencies in a student's mastery of the course and target specific components of a course necessary for completion.

2. How is credit recovery recorded on the transcript?

Credit recovery only serves to recover the credit toward graduation and does not affect a student's grade point average (GPA). Therefore, the credit recovery course will appear on the transcript with either a "P" for pass or "F" for fail. Neither of these marks will affect the student's GPA. If the credit recovery course is passed, then the transcript will show a unit of credit for the course which will count toward graduation. The record of the student originally failing the course will remain on the transcript with the failing grade associated with it and will continue to impact the student's GPA.

3. Will the student's GPA be affected by taking a credit recovery course?

Credit recovery is designed to recover a credit. When a student wants to both recover the credit and increase his or her GPA, then the student should repeat the entire course. The purpose of credit recovery is to earn credits toward graduation.

4. Are there other situations when a student should consider retaking the entire course rather than using credit recovery?

Yes. Counselors should examine closely the postsecondary plans of a student interested in credit recovery to see if it is appropriate for the student given the student's unique plans and the course under consideration.

Included below are examples where a student will need to retake the entire course rather than use credit recovery:

- A student who is wishing to receive community college articulated credit for a CTE course should retake the entire course.

- A student looking to enter a Health Occupations program who has failed biology will need to retake the course and not use credit recovery if the postsecondary institution of interest requires a minimum grade average in biology.
- Students seeking to raise their GPA, should repeat the course.

5. Will the credit recovery pass/fail grading system negatively impact athletic eligibility in any way?

No. Treating credit recovery this way has been reviewed and accepted by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA). NCHSAA has acknowledged that there will be no adverse impact on a student's athletic eligibility.

6. Will the credit recovery pass/fail grading system negatively impact the admission of students into community college and/or the university system?

No. The General Administration of the University of North Carolina System and the North Carolina Community College System have both agreed that the presence of a pass or fail on student's transcript will not negatively impact a student's admission eligibility into these institutions.

7. Is there a time limit on when a credit recovery course must be taken?

No. It is strongly encouraged to place a student in credit recovery for a course as soon as possible after completing the course to minimize learning loss. Best practices suggest that students complete the credit recovery within one year.

8. Does a credit recovery course have to be completed within one semester or summer session?

Yes, unless there are extenuating circumstances whereby the principal determines an *Incomplete* is more appropriate. If an *Incomplete* is awarded, then as soon as the credit recovery is finished, a grade of Pass or Fail will replace the *Incomplete* for the credit recovery course in the original semester in which it was begun.

9. Can students repeat a course which they have already passed?

Allowing a student to repeat a course that he or she has already passed is a local decision.

10. If a credit recovery course has an associated End-of-Course (EOC) assessment, does a student have to retake the test?

Students may retake the associated EOC (per SBE Policy CCRE-001). It is a local decision to determine if it is appropriate for students to test at the conclusion of the course.

11. When does a student receive credit for a credit recovery course?

When the student has completed the credit recovery course and taken the EOC assessment, if appropriate, he or she receives credit for the course.

12. If a student is taking an EOC associated with a credit recovery course, when does he/she take the test?

The EOC assessment associated with credit recovery should be administered no later than 30 days upon the completion of the credit recovery course.

13. Are students enrolled in NC Math 1 Credit Recovery eligible to take the NC Math 1 Check-Ins?

Students enrolled in NC Math 1 Credit Recovery are eligible to take the NC Math 1 Check-Ins.

14. Does the EOC count as 20% of the final grade in the credit recovery course?

Yes. When calculating the student's "P" (pass) or "F" (fail) grade, the associated EOC score should be included as 20% of the final grade.

15. What should be the content of a credit recovery course?

The content should be dictated by the deficiency demonstrated when the student attempted the course the first time. A pre-assessment of the student's understanding of the course material should ideally be administered at the beginning of the course and the credit recovery customized to meet the needs of the individual.

By the beginning of the 2019-20 school year, public school units shall develop local policy and procedures addressing the implementation of credit recovery opportunities across the school district to support student achievement. Credit recovery policies and procedures shall address factors for student participation, content alignment to original course, instructional delivery methods, and a process to ensure consistency in implementation across the district.

16. Should all credit recovery courses take the same amount of time to complete?

No. Credit recovery should be customized to meet the needs of the course and the student's prior knowledge and skills when entering the credit recovery.

17. How should courses be coded in PowerSchool?

Public school units should reference current *DPI PowerSchool Documentation* found [here](#) to determine how these courses are coded.

18. Is there a limit on how many credit recovery courses a student may take in his or her high school career?

No. A local school board may not limit the number of credit recovery courses taken by a student prior to graduation.