

AB 104 | ASSEMBLY BILL 104 INFORMATION

The state of California recently enacted a new law – Assembly Bill (AB) 104 – that will expand learning and credit recovery options for students who may have struggled academically during the pandemic-impacted 2020-2021 school year. These include:

- A process for high school students to **change eligible grades** to Pass/No Pass
- A process for students who were enrolled in grades K-11 for the 2020-2021 year to request to **repeat the last grade**
- **Exemption from district graduation requirements** for students in grades 11 or 12 who were not on track to graduate

Grade Changes

Grading Policies Change from Letter Grade to Pass/No Pass

Recently the California State Assembly passed a bill that includes provisions for students in TK-12 schools. On Thursday, July 1, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 104 into law, and we'd like to provide you with important information on how this legislation may apply to your student, specifically around "Grading Policies" with regard to grade changes from a letter grade to Pass/No Pass.

Grading

- [AB 104](#) permits parents of students who were in high school in 2020-21 (or the student, if they are 18) to request letter grades for the 2020-2021 academic year be changed to Pass/No Pass on transcripts.
- The new law requires CSU and encourages UC, and private postsecondary institutions to accept those grade designations without prejudice. You can review the [list of colleges and universities who will accept](#), for admission purposes, a transcript with a Pass/No Pass grade instead of a letter grade. Colleges and universities not listed, including those in other states, may not accept a Pass/No Pass grade for admissions.
- We recommend you reach out to the specific college or university your student is interested in if you do not see the college or university listed in the list provided before applying for a grade change.
- A Parent, guardian, or education rights holder of a pupil, or, for a pupil who is 18 years of age or older, the pupil, must request the grade change no later than **August 17, 2021**. The [High School Grade Change Form](#) must be submitted to lgarcia@rsusd.org by email. ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LEGISLATION. **Absent of a High School Grade Change Form submission by August 17, 2021, will result in a letter grade in the student's transcripts.**

Grade Point Average and Transcripts

Pass/No Pass grades will not be calculated into the student's grade point average (GPA). The following general guidelines can be used to determine whether a change to a pass/no pass may benefit your student:

- A change from an F to no pass will benefit a student's overall transcript
- A change from a D to pass will benefit a student's overall transcript

- Other changes are unlikely to benefit a student's overall transcript

Other notes:

- A grade of D- or higher may be changed to a Pass.
- A grade of F may be changed to a No Pass. A No Pass grade does not earn any credits.
- A Pass grade will earn the number of credits designed for the course.
- Pass/No Pass grades will not be calculated into the student's grade point average (GPA).
- A Pass grade will count towards fulfilling graduation requirements.
- Once a grade has been changed to Pass/ No Pass it may not be reversed.
- Changing a letter grade to a Pass does not make the student eligible for the Valedictorian, Salutatorian, or other awards or recognition. For example, to receive the Valedictorian Award, a student must attain all A's, among other requirements.

How to Request A Grade Change

If you would like to request a grade change, please follow these steps:

- Complete the [High School Grade Change Form](#) and submit by email to lgarcia@rsusd.org by **August 17, 2021**. ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LEGISLATION
- Before requesting a change of grades, we highly recommend you consult with the counselor or principal to discuss your student's specific circumstances.
- Your request will be evaluated and updated grade information will be communicated within 15 calendar days after submitting your request.

Please contact your school's principal, if you have further questions or need assistance.

Repeat Grade

Process for K-11 Students to Request to Repeat the 2020-2021 Grade

This law provides a process for parents and guardians to request that their student repeat the grade they were enrolled in during the 2020-2021 school year. Parents and guardians of students who were in grades Kindergarten – 11 in the last school year would be eligible to make this request if their student received a D, F, or No Pass grade for at least one-half of their coursework in the 2020-2021 school year. This request would trigger a personalized consultation with representatives of the district to review and discuss all learning recovery options and supports that the student could access.

How to Apply

Parents/Guardians may submit a written request to your school site principal. The principal will schedule a consultation within 30 days of submitting the form.

Graduation Requirements Exception

Exemption for 2020-2021 Juniors and Seniors of District Graduation Requirements

The law requires that high school students who were in their third or fourth year of high school during the 2020-2021 school year, and who were not on track to graduate in four years, may be exempt from our district's graduation requirements that exceed statewide requirements. It also requires high schools to provide credit recovery support for these students, including the option to retake courses, or to enroll in a fifth year of high school, to complete state graduation requirements.

Eligibility

The School District will contact students eligible for this exemption.