

Text from the email sent by Provost David Blackwell and Senate Council Chair on April 17, 2020 to students

Dear Wildcats,

We know this isn't how you planned to finish out the Spring 2020 semester.

You've had plans canceled, many of you have had to move your homes and this weekend some of you faced severe storms and tornadoes.

We couldn't be more proud of how you have handled these hardships, and we care deeply about supporting your success as you finish the semester.

In light of all the difficulty faced in the past month, your faculty, as represented by the University Senate Council, have decided to permit "P" grades earned under a pass/fail grading option to satisfy all undergraduate graduation requirements.

This option is available only for the Spring 2020 semester.

Here's what you need to know about that option:

- If you would like to elect pass/fail grading for any of your undergraduate courses, **you will have to contact your advisor to make the election.** You should discuss the election with your advisor or the Director of Undergraduate Studies in your program.
- Pass/fail grading will not be the best option for all students, and there may be consequences to this choice in the future, as you apply for graduate programs or if your career requires licensure.
- Some students should consider requesting an Incomplete, or an "I" grade in a course, which would permit them to finish the course later and continue to earn a letter grade.
- Some students are facing such extreme hardships that they should consider withdrawing from a course.
- Decisions to elect pass/fail grading or withdraw from a course for this semester must be made by 11:59 p.m. on May 1, 2020.

All of these options are available to students, and your advisors can help you think through which option would be the best. Information will also be available on the [Learn Anywhere](#) website.

We also want to note that some programs will continue to require that a student earn a minimum letter grade to progress in a program or course sequence, even though only a "P" would be reported on the student's transcript.

Please speak with your advisor about whether, for instance, an underlying grade of “C” may be required in a particular course to progress in your program, even though you elect pass/fail grading in that course.

Finally, we’d like to acknowledge that this campus-wide change only applies for undergraduate graduation requirements.

For graduate and professional programs, the program faculty have made decisions about whether or not to accept P grades for graduation requirements in those programs.

We encourage graduate and professional students to contact their faculty members for information about those decisions.

We know this semester has been a challenge in so many ways, and we know even more challenges await us in the future. But seeing your resilience and commitment firsthand has us more convinced than ever before that we will emerge from this crisis stronger than before.

We remain grateful for all of you who are part of the University of, for, and with Kentucky.

With gratitude,

David W. Blackwell, Provost
Jennifer Bird-Pollan, Senate Council Chair