

Proposal To Change Date Of Letter Grade To Credit/No Credit Option

Allowing students the option to change from a letter grade to credit/no credit (CR/NC) at the “last day to withdraw with a W” date provides some students one more option with respect to their education. Currently students must select this option by the end of the first week of classes. Leeward CC is the only UH CC that does allow this option up until the final withdraw period. Even UH Manoa and UH Hilo allow students more time to change from a letter grade to CR/NC. UH West Oahu is the only campus with the same date as ours.

Campus	Last Day to Change Grade to C/NC*	E.g. Spring 2017
Leeward CC	First week of class, during drop/add period	1/13/17
West Oahu	First week of class, during drop/add period	1/13/17
Manoa	Last day to withdraw without a “W”	1/18/17
Hilo	One week after last day to withdraw without a “W”	1/27/17
Hawaii CC	Last day to withdraw	4/3/17
Honolulu CC	Last day to withdraw	4/3/17
Kapiolani CC	Last day to withdraw	4/3/17
Kauai CC	Last day to withdraw	4/3/17
Maui C	Last day to withdraw	4/3/17
Windward CC	Last day to withdraw	4/3/17

*Information found online at the Academic Calendar for each campus

Campus Change of Grade Forms:

- Windward: https://windward.hawaii.edu/admissions_records/Credit_No_Credit.pdf
- HawaiiCC: https://hawaii.hawaii.edu/sites/default/files/assets/admissions/docs/credit_no_credit.pdf
- Hilo: https://hilo.hawaii.edu/registrar/documents/CR-NCform6-08_ff.pdf
- Kapiolani: https://www.kapiolani.hawaii.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/KISC_AddDrop.pdf
- Manoa: Change via UH portal
- Maui: Change via UH portal

ASUH Input

On April 18, 2017 this issue was brought to the Leeward CC ASUH where a lively discussion ensued. The outcome was, Student Senator Rawley motioned to allow students to opt for CR/NC at the last withdraw date. Student Senator Alex seconded. Vote was: 7 in favor, 0 against, 2 abstain. The motion carried.

Counseling Input

The following questions were brought up by ASUH and addressed by Jayne Bopp and Tiana Loo.

1. How does credit/no credit affect financial aid?

Bopp: Changing from a letter grade to CR/NC will affect financial aid the same way a F, or W will. Receiving credit should not be a problem. The point of being able to change from a letter grade to CR/NC is not to mitigate financial aid issues, but to mitigate GPA issues.

Loo: Yes, agreed. However, on the same token, if a student is on SAP (Satisfactory Accademic Progress) for their financial aid, and takes a class as CR/NC, and end up doing B work, a B grade would increase their GPA to help get off of SAP, versus a CR does not affect GPA.

2. Will credit classes count towards your pre-reqs if you needed a “C” or better to take the next class?

Bopp: No, it will not, if you need a "C" or better, you need to take a course for a letter grade.

Loo: Correct. The only time it will count is for Math and ENG, where the dev ed courses are only offered CR/NC. ENG and Math college level courses have the dev ed courses getting CR as a viable prereq.

3. If you retake the class that you received credit OR no credit for will that letter grade replace the credit or no credit?

Bopp: I'm assuming yes.

Loo: Correct. However, if you received a NC first, then repeated and got a W, it will still remain a NC.

4. Will credit classes transfer to the 4 year?

Loo: This will depend on each receiving institution and their policies.

The “Fine Print”: Risks of changing from a letter grade to CR/NC

- Students enrolled in a Certificate program may not use the CR/NC option to meet program requirements.
- Students in the Associate in Arts program may use the option for elective courses only.
- Students in the Associate in Science or Associate in Applied Science program may use the option only for electives that fall outside the major field of study (e.g., Arts and Humanities or Social Science electives taken by an Accounting major).
- No more than 12 credits may be taken on a CR/NC basis for any degree program.
- VA benefits will not pay for CR/NC courses (if there is an option for a grade).
- To earn a CR, students must pass the course with a grade of “C” or higher.
- Some colleges, graduate and professional schools, employers, and scholarship and fellowship awarding agencies may not recognize this option or may recalculate the “CR” as a “C” grade and the “NC” as an “F” grade.

Closing

The intent of this proposal is to allow some students an additional option. When the Maka’ala Program call goes out for “Consider Withdrawing”, some students will able to select CR/NC instead risking an F or withdrawing. This proposal speaks to our “*Wildly Important Goal*” of “keeping the students we have”.