

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Promotion, Retention, Grading, and Graduation Requirements

Grade Point Average and Class Rank

This regulation supersedes Regulation 2462.5.

I. PURPOSE

To establish procedures for determining a student's grade point average (GPA) in high school and to clarify class rank.

II. SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Section III.C. has been changed to reflect the new quality points system.

III. PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING GRADE POINT AVERAGE

- A. GPA shall be calculated on the basis of all courses for which credit has been earned, or attempted, including repeated courses previously passed. This calculation includes grades for courses taken in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades for high school credit.
- B. Students entering high school and students entering the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades and enrolled in a high school course shall be advised of the method of determining GPA during the spring orientation and academic advising sessions.
- C. Quality points are numerical values assigned to grades for the purpose of determining a numerical average. Quality points shall be assigned to grades earned in all courses for which credit is received, as follows:

A	4.0	B-	2.7	D+	1.3
A-	3.7	C+	2.3	D	1.0
B+	3.3	C	2.0	F	0.0
B	3.0	C-	1.7		

Advanced Placement (AP) courses and specified International Baccalaureate (IB) courses shall be weighted for students who pass the course and complete the accompanying AP or IB exam by applying an additional 1.0 quality point to the quality point value assigned to the final grade. Certain dual enrollment courses that have a prerequisite Advanced Placement course also receive a 1.0 quality point. For example, a final grade of A in an AP course shall receive 5.0 quality

points for purposes of calculating GPA. An exception occurs if a grade of F is assigned.

High school credit-bearing honors courses in mathematics, science, English, and social studies receive a 0.5 weight. For example, a final grade of A in an honors course receives 4.5 quality points for purposes of calculating GPA.

- D. The pass grade for pass-fail courses shall not be included in the computation of GPA; the fail grade shall be included. Courses dropped shall be included in the computation of GPA in accordance with the current version of Regulation 2445.
- E. A student's GPA shall be determined by dividing the total number of quality points earned by the number of courses attempted. The GPA shall be reported to three decimal places (thousandths).
- F. Each high school will be provided with a percentile rating of GPA's for estimating class rank for individual scholarships or military applications that require this information. High schools will not calculate a numerical class rank other than this percentile ranking.

IV. COMMUNICATION WITH COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The principal and director of student services shall provide colleges and universities with an explanation of the class rank policy through the Fairfax County Public Schools profile.

See also the current version of: Regulation 2445, Rules and Procedures for Students Dropping High School Courses