

# Who is eligible to take an advanced course on a pass/fail basis?

- Available to juniors and seniors who wish to take one (1) or two (2) courses in certain areas of study that are **beyond the requirements for graduation.**
- These two credits must be in addition the 26 credits required for graduation on the Foundation + Endorsement Program or the 22 credits required for graduation on the Foundation High Program.
- To take the third- or fourth-year courses in the four-year elective programs on a pass/fail basis, the student must have credit for the first two courses in the elective program sequence.
- The student should also have an overall B or above average for other courses completed in the field of study.
- The student must meet the prerequisites of each course and have parent, teacher, and counselor approval.

# How many pass/fail courses is a student allowed to take?

- Juniors: You may take only 1 credit on a pass/fail basis
- Seniors: You may take only 1 credit on a pass/fail basis UNLESS you did not take one during your junior year. If you DID NOT take 1 credit on a pass/fail basis during your junior year, then you may take 2 credits on a pass/fail basis during your senior year.

# Who really benefits from this option?

The student who will obtain the maximum benefit from this option is the student who :

- Is both academically-able and is talented in or has a keen interest in one of the identified courses of study;
- Will have more credits than the twenty-two (foundation program) or twenty-six (foundation+ endorsement program) required for graduation;
- Will have **more K-level academic courses than L-level courses** on the final transcript; and
- Earns mostly grades of A in ALL courses of study (has a GPA of 6.0 or higher).

# Who really benefits from this option?

**Note:** The student described above will achieve a grade point average that is almost identical to the grade point average he/she would obtain if two K-level courses were attempted instead of enrollment in and completion of the pass/fail courses. This option works in this way because the total number of K-level courses is greater than the number of L-level courses.

This option does not alter class rank for students with few or no K-level courses; in fact, a pass/fail class may lower a student's GPA if he/she takes all L-level courses and earns any grade lower than an A.

# How are grades handled in a pass/fail course?

Students who are eligible and choose to take one of the advanced courses for a pass/fail grade

- will receive a numerical grade all year on the report card, and
- will receive a P (pass) or F (fail) on the transcript

**These courses will not be included in the computation of grade point averages and class rank.**

# What are the performance standards for these courses?

- Students must complete all of the assigned work just as if they were enrolled in the class on a non-pass/fail basis.
- Students must take all tests associated with the course unless exempt from the final exam through grades earned and attendance
- To maintain eligibility to stay in the pass/fail course for the second semester, the student's semester average must be passing.  
Exception: If the student is in a K-level foreign language course, K-level eligibility standards must be maintained.

Note: Students will receive a numerical grade on the report card for each grading period. Only the transcript will reflect a P (passing) or F (failing).

# How will grades in a pass/fail course affect eligibility for extracurricular activities?

- The numerical grades earned in a pass/fail course will be used to determine eligibility for participation in all UIL or school-sponsored activities.
- In addition, numerical grades will also be used to determine honor roll each grading period; academic awards eligibility, including admission to organizations such as National Honor Society; criteria used in selection of students for various positions such as drill team officers, class officers; exam exemptions; entrance and exit in K-level courses, etc.

# What should I do next?

- Talk to your parents about pass/fail and see if it is a good option for you.
- You will get a copy of the Google form you submit acknowledging you received this information that you can review with your parents. Information is also posted on the Academics section of the Cy Ridge website.
- If you would like to apply for pass/fail, visit the counselors office or the Cy Ridge website to pick up the forms. You can also contact your counselor with questions.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY JANUARY 15TH**



## Pass / Fail Courses 2020-2021

Cypress-Fairbanks I.S.D. wants to encourage students to pursue their areas of special talents and aptitudes and to enrich their academic achievement through efforts both in and out of the public school setting. Academically-able and talented students frequently forfeit opportunities to study in their areas of talent and interest. To encourage these students to explore areas of interest in depth while they are in high school, the district is offering the following courses to students in grades 11 and 12 on a pass/fail basis. To qualify to take a course for pass/fail, the student must have completed two L-level credits in the defined sequence/program of study.

<b>Courses Allowed on a Pass/Fail Basis</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletics III-IV</li> <li>• Off- Campus PE III-IV</li> <li>• Band III-IV</li> <li>• Orchestra III-IV</li> <li>• Choir III-IV</li> <li>• Dance III-IV</li> <li>• Art III-IV</li> <li>• Debate III, IV</li> <li>• Independent Study in Speech (Level IV)</li> <li>• Tech Theatre III-IV</li> <li>• Theatre Production III-IV</li> <li>• Theatre Arts III-IV</li> <li>• Advanced Journalism/Newspaper II*-IV</li> <li>• Advanced Journalism/Yearbook II*-IV</li> <li>• Air Force JROTC III-IV</li> <li>• Sociology</li> <li>• Psychology</li> <li>• Street Law</li> <li>• Social Studies Research</li> <li>• Special Projects in Social Studies (History in Film, Holocaust, Vietnam)</li> <li>• Spanish III-VI</li> <li>• French III-VI</li> <li>• German III-VI</li> <li>• Latin III-IV</li> <li>• American Sign Language III-IV</li> </ul> <p style="margin-top: 10px;"><b>CTE courses</b></p> <p>➤ <b>(3<sup>rd</sup> course or more in a program of study*/defined sequence)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accounting I</li> <li>• Advanced Culinary Arts (spring only)</li> <li>• Advanced Floral Design</li> <li>• Advanced Marketing (spring only)</li> <li>• Ag Equipment</li> <li>• Animation II (spring only)</li> <li>• Architectural Design II (spring only)</li> <li>• Audio/Video Production II (spring only)</li> <li>• Automotive Technology II (spring only)</li> <li>• Business Information Management II (BIM II)</li> <li>• Business Management</li> <li>• Child Guidance (spring only)</li> </ul>	<p>➤ <b>(3<sup>rd</sup> course or more in a program of study*-continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction Technology II (spring only)</li> <li>• Digital Audio Technology II</li> <li>• Diversified Manufacturing II</li> <li>• Engineering Design and Presentation II (spring only)</li> <li>• Fashion Design II (spring only)</li> <li>• Health Science Theory/Clinicals (spring only)</li> <li>• Instructional Practices (spring only)</li> <li>• Insurance Operations</li> <li>• Internetworking Technologies I - (not dual credit)</li> <li>• Internetworking Technologies II- (not dual credit)</li> <li>• Mill &amp; Cabinetmaking Technology (spring only)</li> <li>• Plumbing II (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Ag, Food &amp; Natural Resources (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Animation (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Architectural Design (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Audio/Visual Production (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Construction Technology (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Culinary Arts (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Education/Training (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Health Science (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Human Services (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Information Technology (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in Manufacturing (spring only)</li> <li>• Practicum in STEM (spring only)</li> <li>• Precision Metal Manufacturing I (spring only)</li> <li>• Precision Metal Manufacturing II (spring only)</li> <li>• Project-based Research I in Ag</li> <li>• Project-based Research in Fashion Design</li> <li>• Project-based Research in Multimedia</li> <li>• Project-based Research in Networking</li> <li>• Project-based Research in Plumbing</li> <li>• Range Ecology Management</li> <li>• Securities and Investments</li> <li>• Veterinary Medical Applications</li> <li>• Web Technologies II</li> <li>• Welding II (spring only)</li> <li>• World Health Research</li> </ul> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">* <i>For juniors/seniors who have already completed two credits in journalism</i></p>

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## How many pass/fail courses is a student allowed to take?

Students may take only 1 credit on a pass/fail basis during their junior year and 1 credit during their senior year. Seniors may take two credits pass/fail, if one is not taken during the junior year.

## Who really benefits from this option?

The student who will obtain the maximum benefit from this option is the student who

1. is both academically-able and is talented in or has a keen interest in one of the identified courses of study;
2. will have more credits than the twenty-two (foundation program) or twenty-six (foundation+ endorsement program) required for graduation;
3. will have **more K-level academic courses than L-level courses** on the final transcript; and
4. earns mostly grades of A in **ALL** courses of study (has a GPA of 6.0 or higher).

**Note:** The student described above will achieve a grade point average that is almost identical to the grade point average he/she would obtain if two K-level courses were attempted instead of enrollment in and completion of the pass/fail courses. This option works in this way because the total number of K-level courses is greater than the number of L-level courses. This option does not alter class rank for students with few or no K-level courses; in fact, a pass/fail course may lower a student's GPA if he/she takes all L-level courses and earns any grade lower than an A.

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1. will receive numerical grades all year on the report card; and
2. will receive a P (pass) **or** F (fail) on the transcript.

**These courses will not be included in the computation of grade point averages and class rank.**

## What are the performance standards for these courses?

- Students must complete all of the assigned work just as if they were enrolled in the course on a non-pass/fail basis.
- Students must take all tests associated with the course unless exempt from the final exam through grades earned and attendance.
- To maintain eligibility to stay in the pass/fail course for the second semester, the student's semester average must be passing. Exception: If the student is in a K-level foreign language course, K-level eligibility standards must be maintained.

**Note:** Students will receive a numerical grade on the report card for each grading period. Only the transcript will reflect a P (passing) or F (failing).

## **How will grades in a pass/fail course affect eligibility for extra-curricular activities?**

The numerical grades earned in a pass/fail course will be used to determine eligibility for participation in all UIL or school-sponsored activities. In addition, numerical grades will also be used to determine honor roll each grading period; academic awards eligibility, including admission to organizations such as National Honor Society; criteria used in selection of students for various positions such as drill team officers, class officers; exam exemptions; entrance and exit in K-level courses, etc.

## **How do I enroll in a pass/fail course?**

Students interested in taking one of the pass/fail courses must discuss this option with the teacher of the course during the first week the course meets. If the student meets all of the criteria, he/she must complete the appropriate form, have it signed by the parent and teacher, and return it to the counselor, no **later than the end of the third week of the semester**, for approval and a schedule change to reflect enrollment in a pass/fail course. For more information, discuss this option with your teacher or counselor.

## **What courses are available for pass/fail?**

See the counselors' office for a comprehensive list.

## **Additional Pass/Fail Notes:**

1. Students who have exactly 26 credits (Foundation+ Endorsement Program) or 22 credits (Foundation Program) may not pass/fail any course.
2. Students must have credit for the first two courses in the elective program sequence to pass/fail the third course. (Example: Student must have credit for Debate I and II to pass/fail Debate III.)
3. Students may count courses taken on a pass/fail basis towards earning an endorsement.

# PASS / FAIL COURSE WORKSHEET

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level 11 12

*(check one)*

**Directions:** During the junior and senior years, students may take up to two credits of pass/fail coursework, one as a junior and one as a senior, if eligibility requirements are met. Seniors may take two credits pass/fail if one was not taken during the junior year. Identify the course(s) the student requests and the eligibility requirements by checking the appropriate boxes.

**Complete this worksheet before signing Application and Approval to Enroll in a Pass/Fail Course.**

## Section I: Third and Fourth Year Foreign Language Courses

Spanish III-VI  
ASL III-IV

French III-VI

German III-VI

Latin III-IV

### Eligibility Requirements

Junior or senior standing  
Full credit earned for Level I and II of the same course  
More K than L-Level courses on transcript (a GPA of 6.0 +)  
Mostly grades of "A" in all courses  
An overall "B" average in other courses in the field of study  
Meets all prerequisites of course requested  
Parent, teacher, counselor approval

## Section II: Four Year Electives

Athletics III-IV

Off-Campus PE III-IV

Band III-IV

Orchestra III - IV

Choir III – IV

Dance III – IV

Debate III-IV

Independent Study in Speech (Level IV)

Theatre III-IV (Arts, Production, Tech)

Art III – IV

Air Force JROTC III-IV

Advanced Journalism II\* – III

-Yearbook (Level III-IV)

Advanced Journalism II\* – III

-Newspaper (Level III-IV)

### Eligibility Requirements

Junior or senior standing  
Full credit earned for Level I and II of the same course  
More K than L-Level courses on transcript (a GPA of 6.0 +)  
Mostly grades of "A" in all courses  
An overall "B" average in other courses in the field of study  
Meets all prerequisites of course requested  
Parent, teacher, counselor approval

## Section III: Other Electives

Sociology

Psychology

Street Law

Social Studies Research

Special Projects in Social Studies

(History in Film, Holocaust, Vietnam)

### Eligibility Requirements

Junior or senior standing  
Successfully **completed** two full year social studies courses  
An overall "C" average  
Parent, teacher, and counselor approval

## Section IV: CTE Courses

### 3<sup>rd</sup> course or more in a program of study (formerly a defined a sequence)

Accounting I	Practicum in Animation (spring only)
Advanced Culinary Arts (spring only)	Practicum in Architectural Design (spring only)
Advanced Floral Design	Practicum in Audio/Video Production (spring only)
Advanced Marketing (spring only)	Practicum in Construction Technology (spring only)
Ag Equipment	Practicum in Culinary Arts (spring only)
Animation II (spring only)	Practicum in Education/Training (spring only)
Architectural Design II (spring only)	Practicum in Health Science (spring only)
Audio/Video Production II (spring only)	Practicum in Human Services (spring only)
Automotive Technology II (spring only)	Practicum in Information Tech (spring only)
Business Information Management II (BIM II)	Practicum in Manufacturing (spring only)
Business Management	Practicum in STEM (spring only)
Child Guidance (spring only)	Precision Metal Manufacturing I (spring only)
Construction Technology II (spring only)	Precision Metal Manufacturing II (spring only)
Digital Audio Technology II	Project-based Research in Ag
Diversified Manufacturing II	Project-based Research in Fashion Design
Engineering Design and Presentation II (spring only)	Project-based Research in Multimedia
Fashion Design II (spring only)	Project-based Research in Networking
Health Science Theory/Clinicals (spring only)	Project-based Research in Plumbing
Instructional Practices (spring only)	Range Ecology Management
Insurance Operations	Securities and Investments
Internetworking Technologies I (not dual credit)	Veterinary Medical Applications
Internetworking Technologies II (not dual credit)	Web Technologies II
Mill & Cabinetmaking Technology (spring only)	Welding II (spring only)
Plumbing II (spring only)	World Health Research
Practicum in Ag, Food & Natural Resources (spring only)	

### Eligibility Requirements

- Junior or senior standing
- Successfully completed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> L-level courses in the same program of study
- Meets all prerequisites of course requested
- An overall "C" average in all courses
- Parent, teacher, counselor approval

# Application and Approval to Enroll in a Pass/Fail Course

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level 11 12  
*(check one)*

I am requesting enrollment in the following pass/fail course(s):

1) \_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_

I have spoken to my counselor to determine eligibility, and I understand how a pass/fail course will affect my eligibility for honor roll, class rank, UIL participation and other school- approved activities which have a grade requirement. I further understand that failing to earn the additional credits, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> credits for the Foundation Program or 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> credits for the Foundation+ Endorsement Program will cause this course to be calculated in my grade point average (GPA).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name- Please Print

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher or Department Chair's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Counselor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date