

# Revisions to Title 5, Excused Withdrawal and Pass - No Pass Grading Option Regulation

## § 55000 DEFINITIONS.

“Enrollment” occurs when a student receives an evaluative or nonevaluative symbol pursuant to section 55023 in a credit course.

## § 55022 PASS-NO PASS GRADING OPTION

**Courses in which each student may elect until the last day of instruction**, as established and published by the districts, whether the basis of evaluation is to be “pass-no pass” or a letter grade.

## § 55023 ACADEMIC RECORD SYMBOLS AND GRADE POINT AVERAGE.

In progress: the “IP” symbol shall be used only in those courses that extend beyond the normal end of an academic term. It indicates that work is “in progress,” but that assignment of an evaluative symbol (grade) must await its completion. The appropriate evaluative symbol (grade) and unit credit shall be assigned and the appropriate evaluative symbol (grade) and unit credit shall be assigned and replace the IP symbol once the course is completed.

## § 55024. WITHDRAWALS FROM CREDIT COURSES.

(c)(1) Excused withdrawals shall be allowed to students in extenuating circumstances at any time, upon petition of the student or their representative.

(2) “Extenuating circumstances” means cases of accidents, illnesses, or other circumstances beyond the control of the student. Colleges shall proactively engage with the student or their representative to identify available college support services that may mitigate the extenuating circumstances and prevent withdrawal. If mitigation efforts are unsuccessful, the student shall receive the excused withdrawal symbol (“EW”) on their transcript. Students shall not be denied an excused withdrawal due to a college’s inability to respond to the petition or to provide sufficient assistance to mitigate the student’s circumstances. In no case may an excused withdrawal result in a student being assigned an “FW” grade.

The intent of the regulation changes to title 5 section 55024 is to align these two regulatory schemes to reduce confusion and administrative burdens by providing that:

State aid and repeatability rules are the same for withdrawals under both types of emergency situations; and  
Withdrawals for extenuating circumstances are all treated as excused withdrawals.

The regulation changes provide students with greater grading flexibility and support student persistence during periods of time when external constraints present barriers. These changes will also assist students with preserving or maintaining their GPA.