**LACCD Grading Option Implementation**

**Spring 2020**

The recent COVID-19 pandemic has impacted teaching, learning, and student outcomes, thereby suggesting a need for the Colleges to provide students with additional options to support completions.

In light of recent events, we want students to be relieved from undue concern about grades as we all adjust to alternative modes of teaching and learning. To lessen student anxiety, the Colleges of LACCD are taking the following measures effective immediately:

For Spring 2020 term, and for any term during which a declared state of emergency has an adverse impact on educational continuity and access in the Los Angeles Community College District, the Colleges will lift the restriction on the number of courses/units students can take for Pass/No

Additionally, these courses will not count towards the maximum number of P/NP limits one may apply to the degree, including major courses, as may be defined by each college.

The Colleges will designate that all classes can be taken either Graded or as Pass/No Pass. Courses that are already designated locally as Pass/No Pass only will remain Pass/No Pass only. Through a petition process, students may elect P/NP grades for any course for which they are enrolled. Per title 5 section 55023, a Pass means "at least satisfactory", and a satisfactory letter grade is defined as a grade of C. Furthermore, it is recognized that, not withstanding the language in Board Rules 6701 and 6701.11 defining a Pass as "earning 70% or higher", faculty have the academic freedom to establish their own criteria for setting thresholds for earning letter grades, for the purposes of this grading option implementation process, a grade of Pass shall be equivalent to earning a letter grade of C or higher.

The Colleges will extend students time to change their grade basis (i.e., Graded to Pass/No Pass) until the last day to drop with a W/EW for the course (e.g., the end of week 12 for full-term courses).

The Colleges have decided that a course taken this term as a replacement/repeat of a previously-graded course may be taken Pass/No Pass. (Note that a grade of “Pass” will replace a previous grade, while a grade of “No Pass” will not replace a previous grade.) The previous grade GPA will not be counted towards the student’s cumulative GPA if replaced with the Pass grade.

The Colleges will include the following as part of its messaging to students:

* Most transfer institutions do not compute a GPA for a Pass/No Pass course; however, in some instances a passing grade is computed at a 2.0 level, potentially adversely affecting a student’s overall GPA score.
* Most transfer institutions—including CSU, UC, and graduate or professional schools—require courses for the major to be completed with a letter grade. A Pass grade may result in a student needing to retake a course either before or after transfer.
* A transfer, professional or graduate institution may restrict the allowable transfer units taken as Pass/No Pass. Nursing program course prerequisites may require a letter grade.
* Students are strongly encouraged to speak with a Counselor to discuss the impact of taking a course Pass/No Pass may have towards their academic standing, admissions and financial aid, among other areas.

Students will submit a petition to execute their pass/no pass option and the process will be approved based on the request.