

New Modified Grading Scale Frequently Asked Questions

The revisions to the School Board policies and regulations referenced on this page will go into effect with the start of the 2010-2011 school year.

Why did the Chesapeake Public Schools grading scale change?

Citing the need to ensure that Chesapeake students remain competitive, especially in the area of college and scholarship applications, the Chesapeake School Board adopted a modified 10-point grading scale. The new modified 10-point grading scale was adopted by the Chesapeake School Board on Monday, June 14, 2010.

When will the new grading scale go into effect?

The new grading scale will be effective with the start of the 2010-2011 school year (September 7, 2010).

What is the new grading scale that will go into effect with the start of the 2010-2011 school year?

Range	Letter Grade	Points
93 - 100	A	4.0
90 - 92	A-	3.7
87 - 89	B+	3.3
83 - 86	B	3.0
80 - 82	B-	2.7
77 - 79	C+	2.3
73 - 76	C	2.0
70 - 72	C-	1.7
67 - 69	D+	1.3
64 - 66	D	1.0
Below 64	E	0.0

What is the current grading scale?

The current grading scale in effect until the end of summer school 2010 is as follows:

Range	Letter Grade
94-100	A
86-93	B
78-85	C
70-77	D
69 and below	E

Will the new grading scale be used by all students?

The new grading scale will only be used by students in grades 3-12. Students enrolled in kindergarten, grades 1 and 2 will continue to use a developmental scale for reporting student progress.

Will all previous grades earned be converted to the new grading scale with the start of the 2010-2011 school year?

No. All grades earned through August 2010 will remain on the current grading scale. Grades earned with the upcoming school year will use the new grading scale.

Will the new grading scale change the way class rankings are determined for high school students?

As with the current grading scale, in order to determine a class ranking, the final grade for each attempted course is given a value. These values are multiplied by the amount of credit assigned to the course, and the products for each computation will be totaled and divided by the number of graded, attempted credits. The division is to be carried to four (4) decimal places in obtaining the grade point average of the student. The final number determines the class ranking for each student.

With the new grading scale, the calculation to determine class ranking remains the same. The only difference in determining a class rank, using the new grading scale, will be the values given for each final grade. The new values for each final grade follows:

Letter Grade	Points
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
E	0.0

For students taking Advanced Placement (AP) courses, specifically approved International Baccalaureate (IB) courses, and select honors courses, bonus credit is added after a student's grade point average has been determined. Will this change with the new grading scale?

No. Bonus credit will continue to be added to AP and approved courses. With the new grading scale, the amount of bonus credit to be added to a student's grade point average for completed courses will be as follows:

Selected honors level courses	Advanced Placement (AP)/ International Baccalaureate (IB)
.025	.050

Will the new grading scale have an impact on the graduation requirements, diplomas, or certificates?

No. The new grading scale has no impact on the graduation requirements established by the Virginia General Assembly and the Virginia Board of Education.

Presently, high school students participating in interscholastic competition must have earned a 2.0 grade point average in courses taken in the semester immediately preceding the semester in which a student desires to participate or have an overall GPA of 2.0. Will this change with the new grading scale?

No. With the new grading scale, high school students participating in interscholastic competition will still be required to earn a 2.0 grade point average in courses taken in the semester immediately preceding the semester in which a student desires to participate or have an overall grade point average of 2.0.

To be eligible for the *Honor Roll*, currently an elementary student must maintain a “B” average. Will this change with the grading scale?

No. With the implementation of the new grading scale, for elementary-level students to be eligible for the *Honor Roll*, a student must still maintain a “B” average with no grade less than a “C”. If a student receives a “C-”, he or she is not eligible for the *Honor Roll*.

Will eligibility for the *Honor Roll* for middle and high school students change when the new grading scale goes into effect?

No. Currently, middle and high school students must maintain a “B” average with no grade less than “C”. This will remain the same. However, if a student receives a “C-”, he or she is not eligible for the *Honor Roll*. For example, the student earning grades shown on the report card below is **not eligible** for the *Honor Roll* because the student earned a “C-” in one subject.

Student Report Card		
Student: Judy Smith	Grade: 8	
	1st Quarter Grades	
English		A
Science		A
Mathematics		A
Social Studies		C-
Health and Physical Ed		A
Latin		A

If a student transfers to a Chesapeake public school, how will previous grades be calculated?

All transfer grades received prior to September 2010 will be calculated as letter grades without minuses or pluses. If transfer grades are received for course work completed after September 2010 and the previous school used a system of grading which included pluses and minuses, the grades with the pluses and minuses will be recorded.

If I have any questions about the new grading scale, whom should I contact?

Questions about grades earned in a specific class/course should be discussed with the teacher. Any questions about the grading scale such as GPA calculations, honor roll, eligibility for interscholastic activities, and other areas related to the grading scale should be directed to the **school guidance counselor** or school **principal**.