

VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

NC GRADE REMINDER



During this COVID-19 pandemic, the university is working hard to ensure our students have resources and options they need to finish the semester. One such option will be to change your grading method from A B C D F to S /NC.

What is an “NC”?

A grade of an NC is a non-punitive grade, which is a grade that doesn't earn credit towards your degree.

Why does a grade of “NC” matter if you are using VA education benefits?

An “NC” does not count as earned credit and that is not calculated into the grade point average (GPA). The VA requires schools to report grades of NC. Since you do not receive credit for the course, the VA will not pay for the course, and you will need to pay those funds back to the VA. The effective date for non-punitive grades is the ending date of the term.

How much money will I owe back if I receive a grade of NC?

You could owe the entire cost back per credit hour for the course. For example, if it is a three-hour undergraduate course, the current in-state cost of that course is \$1419.00. If there are course fees associated with that course, the VA will request those back as well. Some examples of colleges that have course fees are Haslam College of Business, Tickle College of Engineering, Nursing, and Social Work. Certain classes may also have course fees, such as English, PE, and Foreign Language. Book money may also be affected if you received the full book stipend for spring.

Are all grades of NC reported to VA?

All grades of NC that affect training time are reported. Full-time training time for spring semester is nine (9) graduate hours of enrollment or 12 hours of undergraduate enrollment.

See the examples below:

Example 1

Student A is enrolled in 12 undergraduate hours. At the end of the term, this student received a passing grade of S for three (3) of his classes, or nine (9) credit hours. For one class, which was three (3) credit hours, the student received an NC. This would mean you only received credit for nine (9) hours instead of 12. Would we have to report this to VA? Yes, at the end of the term your training time went from 12 hours to nine (9) hours. Would this cause you to be in overpayment with VA? Yes, the VA would send you a letter requesting payment back.

Example 2

Student B is enrolled in 16 undergraduate hours. At the end of the term, this student received a passing grade in 12 hours. One class was four (4) hours and the student received an NC in that class? Would this NC have to be reported to VA? Yes, but only if there is a course fee associated with the class. Your training time did not change. You would still receive credit for 12 hours. But if there is a course fee associated with that four-hour class, it would change the cost of your tuition and fees that were reported. This might cause you to be in overpayment with VA.

Example 3

Student C is enrolled in 15 undergraduate hours. For one of his three-credit hour classes he receives an NC. The student finished the semester with 12 passing hours and three (3) hours of an NC. There were no course fees associated with any of this student's classes. Does this grade of NC need to be reported to VA? No, training time did not drop below full time, and tuition and fee charges were not affected by the NC. You would not be in overpayment with VA.

Information on Academic Policy Decisions During COVID-19 can be found at <https://tiny.utk.edu/e2hVn>.

Questions? Contact our office at 865-974-5420 or email us at utkva@utk.edu.

Contact your academic advisor and the Veterans Resource Center BEFORE you change your course to S/NC. Failure to do so could affect your scholarships and federal financial aid.