

RIT | Rochester Institute of Technology

First and foremost, **HELLO** and we hope that you are all doing well! As we approach the end of the Spring semester, we wanted to take this opportunity to update you on some changes in policies and procedures that may impact you. These revisions are in effect for the Spring 2020 term **ONLY**. In an effort to share a lot of information with you in a single email, we are going to be brief. If, however after reviewing this information you have any questions, please direct them to registrar@rit.edu and we will answer your questions as quickly as possible.

1. Alternate Grading Option:

As we previously announced on March 23, for all courses enrolled in the Spring 2020 term, RIT is making an alternate grading option available to both Undergraduate and Graduate students. The alternate grading option allows students to earn credit for courses taken this semester but for traditional grades to be masked and in turn not impact the term or cumulative GPA. Students will be able to elect the alternate grading option online (<https://sis.rit.edu>) beginning on Friday, May 1st. **If you are planning to graduate in Spring 2020 – you ARE ELIGIBLE to take advantage of the alternate grading option – but you will need to submit your requests no later than Friday, May 15th.** Additional information about the alternate grading option, including FAQ's can be found online: <https://www.rit.edu/academicaffairs/registrar/AltGradingOption>. In addition to general information, you will also find an ASL version of this information at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKhAIXM4PkQ&feature=youtu.be>.

Alternate Grades:

Grade	Description	Course Level
SE	Satisfactory – performance at the levels of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+ or C and full course credit is earned.	Undergraduate and Graduate
PE	Pass – performance at the levels of C- or D and full course credit is earned.	Undergraduate
UE	Unsatisfactory - performance at the levels of C- or D and full course credit is earned.	Graduate
NE	No Pass – performance at the level of F and no course credit is earned.	Undergraduate and Graduate

Alternate Grading Option Highlights:

- There is no limit to the number of enrolled classes (Spring 2020) that can be graded with the alternate grading option. Students are permitted to have a mix between traditionally graded (A-F) and alternately graded (SE, PE, UE, NE) courses.
- None of the alternate grades have an impact on term or cumulative GPA's (positive or negative).
- The PE grade will allow students to continue in sequenced courses where the prerequisite is a C- grade.
- Courses with UE grades cannot be used to satisfy graduate degree requirements – just as C- and D grades cannot – but they do earn credit.

- Students do not need permission to elect the alternate grading option and once the request is submitted, the Office of the Registrar will make the adjustment in the student record.

2. Dean's List (Undergraduate Students ONLY):

RIT will continue to recognize high achieving undergraduate students with Dean's List. Below you will find the revised Dean's List criteria for Spring 2020.

By action of the college concerned, full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students will be placed on the Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.40, calculated using at least nine credits of traditionally graded coursework; they do not have any grades of "NE", "Incomplete", "D" or "F", (including wellness and any other non-credit but required courses); and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours

Note: Traditionally graded coursework is defined as coursework graded on the A -> F scale that have not been masked by the alternate grading option.

3. Academic Action (Probation and Suspension) – Undergraduate Students:

At the conclusion of the Spring 2020 term, RIT will not place undergraduate students on academic probation and/or suspension based on their academic performance during that term, regardless of the grading basis elected by the student (traditional grades or alternate grading option). This policy modification ensures there is no negative impact to students due to alternative learning environments and modalities. Students may be removed from probation if they completed at least nine credits of traditionally graded coursework in Spring 2020 with a term and cumulative GPA greater than or equal to 2.0. Otherwise, they will retain their current probation status through their next enrolled term.

Any student completing at least nine credits of traditionally graded coursework during the Spring 2020 term but their cumulative GPA is less than 2.0 (at the conclusion of the Spring 2020) will be given an academic warning. Academic units will notify affected students that a cumulative GPA greater than or equal to 2.0 is required to earn a Bachelor's Degree.

4. Academic Action (Probation and Suspension) – Graduate Students:

Because the determination of academic probation and suspension for graduate students is based solely on the cumulative GPA, at the conclusion of the Spring 2020 term academic action will be processed normally and in accordance with the published policy for graduate students. Additional information about Dean's List and Academic Action may be found online at: https://www.rit.edu/academicaffairs/registrar/sites/rit.edu/academicaffairs/registrar/files/d5.1_policy_revision_2020.pdf

Although this semester has been one of the most challenging for a multitude of reasons, we hope that your experience has been positive and that you find this information to be clear and informative! Be well and we can't wait until we can all be on campus together again! Send questions to registrar@rit.edu.

Sincerely,

Tina Sturgis '98, Senior Associate Registrar