

“CRT / CR / NCE” Grading Option

(Also called "Pass/Fail" or "Credit/No Credit" Policy)

Fall 2020, Winter 2020, Spring 2021

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Capital Community College

What is the CRT / CR / NCE option?

- Due to COVID-19, all students in Fall 2020, Winter 2020, and Spring 2021 have the option of converting a "normal" earned letter grade into a CRT / CR / NCE grade instead. (This is sometimes called “pass/fail” or “credit/no credit” grading).
- There are three "pass/fail" grades that could be applied:
 - **"CRT"** (Credit for Transfer) - *This would be used in place of any earned letter grade of "C" or higher.*
 - **"CR"** (Credit, not for transfer) - *This would be used in place of an earned letter grade of "C-", "D+", "D", or "D-"*
 - **"NCE"** (No Credit) - *This would be used in place of an earned letter grade of "F"*

Is there a maximum limit of how many courses I can convert to the CRT / CR / NCE option?

- Yes. Students can only apply a maximum of 15 credits of “CR”, “CRT”, or “Pass” grades to a degree. More than 15 credits (overall) with “CR”, “CRT”, or “Pass” grades would not be able to be used to satisfy associate degree requirements to graduate.

Does the student have to request the CRT/ CR / NCE option?

- Yes, students will have the option to convert any or all the letter grades they earn during the Fall 2020, Winter 2020, or Spring 2021 to CRT / CR / NCE grading by completing a request on MyCommnet.

When can I request the CRT / CR / NCE option?

- Requests to change the grading method to the CRT / CR / NCE option may be made after final grades are posted.
- Students can apply through MyCommnet for CRT / CR / NCE grades for all courses completed in the Fall 2020, Winter 2020, and Spring 2021 terms during the dates noted below or until a credential is awarded, whichever date is earlier.
 - For courses completed Fall 2020: application is open between December 23, 2020 and January 8, 2021 or until a credential is awarded, whichever is earlier
 - For courses completed Winter 2020: application is open between January 25 and February 8, 2021 or until a credential is awarded, whichever is earlier
 - For courses completed Spring 2021: application is open between May 25 and June 8, 2021 or until a credential is awarded, whichever is earlier

If I choose the CRT / CR / NCE option, does it mean I can stop working on my current course(s)?

- No. The requirements of any course(s) you are taking will not change and any assignments or activities you choose not to submit will be given a score of zero and will likely bring down your overall grade. This may result in an earned grade that is lower than you anticipated, which may then result in a different CRT / CR / NCE grade than you anticipated.

Under what circumstances would a student not want to select this option?

- Students who, by choosing this option, will accumulate a total of more than 15 credits of Pass, CR, or CRT grades: a student may only apply up to 15 credits of Pass, CR, or CRT grades to a degree. Students should only apply for this option for up to 15 credits of Pass, CR, or CRT grades.
- Students who have a major GPA and/or cumulative GPA that is below a 2.0 and the student is graduating. If a student passes a course and opts for a CRT / CR, the student will earn the credit, but it would not count toward the cumulative GPA or major GPA. If the cumulative GPA or the major GPA does not meet a minimum 2.0, the college cannot award the degree to graduate.
- In some major fields, a CRT / CR will not satisfy licensure or accreditation requirements and a specific letter grade may be required. It is important for students to consult with an advisor to determine if a specific letter grade is required. (See information about specialized, accredited, and selective admission programs below.)
- Students who are applying or plan to apply to a selective admissions program, such as nursing, should check with the requirements for admission before selecting CRT / CR / NCE options for their courses. Many selective admissions programs require a C or better, or in some cases a C+ or better, in prerequisite courses in order to be eligible for admission; a CR grade will not meet the requirement for a C or better. (See information about specialized, accredited, and selective admission programs below.)
- Students who are receiving Veterans Benefits are strongly urged to check with the Veterans Advisor at their college to determine the potential effect of switching courses to the CRT / CR / NCE option. Some Veterans Benefits policies may have been modified as a result of changes in grading practices due to COVID 19.

Is the CRT / CR / NCE option a good fit for students in all programs at Capital?

- No. In some fields, opting for CRT / CR / NCE grading will not satisfy licensure, accreditation, or selective admissions requirements.
- **Nursing Program Applicants and Enrolled Nursing Students** : Any student who is taking a course to gain entry into the Nursing program may not be able to use the CRT / CR / NCE option since as an accredited, selective admissions program, the Nursing Program will continue to maintain its admission, grading, and progression requirements. Only a letter grade that meets the curriculum standards will be accepted for admission or progression in the Nursing Program. Furthermore, please be aware that CRT / CR / NCE grades may not be accepted in transfer to colleges and universities outside of the CT State system. *Students in the Nursing program must meet the specific admission, progression and readmission grade requirements as outlined in the individual program documents and should contact their assigned academic advisor for more specific guidance before making a decision.*

Question: Is it advisable for candidates applying for a selective admission program in nursing or allied health or for students enrolled in the any of these programs to take a grade of CRT for any courses required for admission or within the Plan(s) of Study?

Answer: No. Students need a letter grade to calculate the Admissions GPA, and if it becomes necessary a readmission GPA. Students should review the admission requirements for the specific program to which they are applying.

Question: If I am planning to apply to one of the community college nursing programs and I have a CRT on my transcript for a Pre-admission or Co-requisite course will I still be eligible?

Answer: All Pre-admission or Co-requisite courses require a minimum grade of C or higher, with the exception of BIO 211 and BIO 212 which both require a minimum grade of C+. Though a grade of "CRT" will meet the nursing application requirements for most admission or co-requisite courses, it may result in a Nursing GPA that will not be competitive enough to achieve admission to the nursing program.

Question: If I am planning to apply to one of the community college nursing programs and I have a CRT on my transcript for BIO 211 or BIO 212 will I still be eligible?

Answer: No. A grade of "CRT" will not meet the nursing application requirement for BIO 211 or BIO 212 as a C+ or higher is required for these courses.

Question: If I am currently enrolled in Nursing, can I use a CRT for my nursing (NUR) courses and still progress to the next course?

Answer: No. According to the Nursing Student Handbook in order to progress to the next nursing course a student must "Obtain the minimum grade requirement for nursing of 74% or higher", while a CRT can reflect a grade of 73% or lower.

Question: If I am currently enrolled in Nursing, can I use a CRT for any co-requisite course and still progress to the next course?

Answer: Yes. Co-requisite courses in the nursing program require a minimum grade of "C", which would be reflected in a CRT, however transferability of these courses to colleges/universities outside of the CSCU could be jeopardized. In addition, a grade of CRT makes the calculation of an accurate GPA impossible.

Question: If I am unsuccessful in a Nursing (NUR) course, can I use a CRT towards my request for readmission?

Answer: According to the Nursing Student Handbook readmission eligibility requirements include a "Minimum Nursing Readmission GPA of 2.70. The Nursing Readmission GPA is based on those courses assigned credit within the nursing program plan of study. The Nursing Readmission GPA is not the same as the Nursing Admission GPA or the college GPA." A CRT would need to be converted to the actual grade earned in order to calculate the nursing readmission GPA.

Question: After graduation can I use a CRT to apply for admission to an RN-BSN or RN-MSN program?

Answer: The CRT is transferrable within the CT State Colleges & Universities (CSCU) but may not be transferrable outside of the CSCU system. It is up to the individual program to determine if it will be acceptable for admission to an RN-BSN or RN-MSN program. Most programs have minimum GPA requirements.

- **Allied Health (non-Nursing) Applicants and Enrolled Students:** Any student who is taking a course to gain entry into (or continue in) an Allied Health program (such as Radiologic Technology, Paramedic, or Medical Assisting) may not be able to use the CRT / CR / NCE option since these programs sometimes require specific minimum grades (such as C+ or higher) on certain courses to satisfy prerequisite requirements. *Students in Allied Health programs must meet the specific admission, progression and/or readmission grade requirements as outlined in the individual program documents and should contact their program coordinator for more specific guidance before making a decision.*

Question: If I am planning to apply to (or continue in) the Radiologic Technology Program and I have a CRT on my transcript for a pre-admission or co-requisite course will I still be eligible?

Answer: A grade of "CRT" in a *pre-admission course* would meet the requirements for the Radiologic Technology Program, however, would be calculated as a "C" grade when scoring and ranking applications. A grade of "CRT" in a *co-requisite course* would meet the requirements for the Radiologic Technology Program. A grade of "CR" in a pre-admission or co-requisite course would not meet the requirements of the Radiologic Technology Program.

Question: If I am planning to apply to (or continue in) a Paramedic Program and I have a CRT on my transcript for a pre-requisite or co-requisite course will I still be eligible?

Answer: Although there are admissions requirements to gain entry into the paramedic programs, there are no course pre-requisites that need to be completed. All "PMD" courses require a grade of "C" or better to continue in the paramedic programs so a "CRT" grade would meet the requirements for a Paramedic Program. A grade of "CR" in a "PMD" course would not meet the requirements of a Paramedic Program.

Question: If I am planning to go into to (or continue in) the Medical Assisting Program and I have a CRT on my transcript for a pre-requisite or co-requisite course will I still be eligible?

Answer: Medical Assisting is not a selective application program; however, all "MED" courses require a grade of "C" or better to gain entry or continue in the program, therefore a "CRT" grade would meet the requirements for the Medical Assisting Program. A grade of "CR" in a "MED" course would not meet the requirements of the Medical Assisting Program.

- **Social Services Students:** Any student who is planning to transfer to a Bachelor in Social Work Program (BSW) at CCSU, ECSU, SCSU, or WCSU must take the courses listed below and earn a grade of “C” or higher for the course to count as meeting degree requirements at the transfer institution. If a student opts to change their grade for one of these courses to a CRT / CR / NCE option, the course would not meet the degree requirements at the transfer institution and the student will have to retake the course at the transfer institution. Any credits they earned for a required course as a CRT only will count as elective credits upon transfer.
 - POL 111 American Government
 - SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology
 - PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology
 - HSE 101 Intro to Human Services or SOC 235 Intro to Social Welfare Policy
 - SOC 210 Sociology of the Family
 - SOC 201 Contemporary Social Problems
 - ECN 101 Principles of Macroeconomics
 - BIO 115 Human Biology or BIO 110
 - MAT 167 Principles of Statistics
- **Veteran Students:** Any student who is receiving Veterans Benefits are strongly urged to check with the Veterans Advisor at their college to determine the potential effect of switching courses to the CRT / CR / NCE option. Some Veterans Benefits policies may have been modified as a result of changes in grading practices due to COVID 19. *Students who are receiving GI Bill funding should contact the Veterans Service Associate for more specific guidance before making a decision.*

Will all courses be converted to a CRT / CR / NCE option?

- No, only courses that students request to be converted to CRT / CR / NCE grading.

How will the CRT / CR / NCE grades be calculated into the grade point average?

- None of these grades are calculated in the GPA.
 - The CRT and CR grades will allow the student to earn credit, but are not factored into the GPA.
 - The NCE grade is also not factored into the GPA, but the student will not earn credit. Note that the NCE grade may still have a negative impact on the student’s Satisfactory Academic Progress standing for financial aid. Students should consult with the financial aid office for more information.

What about courses for which students had already selected a Pass / Fail option?

- If the student selects this CRT / CR / NCE option, then a Pass will remain a Pass, while a Fail will follow the guidelines for failing grades in this option and be converted to a NCE for completed courses. Neither of which will affect the student’s GPA.

Will courses, including developmental courses, with a CRT or CR grade meet prerequisite requirements?

- A CRT grade will satisfy prerequisite requirements, though in some cases a grade above C will gain the student additional advantages, for instance qualify the student to skip a subsequent level. Students should consult with their instructors.
- Courses for which students earn a CR grade may not meet major course or prerequisite requirements. If a C- is required to meet the prerequisite requirement, students who receive a C- should consider keeping that grade since the CR will not indicate that the minimum grade requirement has been met.
- Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their instructors in their developmental and other prerequisite courses.

Will courses with a CRT grade transfer to another institution?

- Students with Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2020, or Spring 2021 grades of CRT will be able to transfer and apply to major and general education requirements at any CSCU institution with or without the completion of an associate degree in most cases. There may be exceptions for how a course applies to major requirements in specialized or selective admission programs.
- Courses for which students earn a CR grade will transfer to a CSCU institution with a completed associate degree, including a Transfer Ticket degree, although applicability of a CR may vary in programs that require a grade of C or above in specific courses.
- Courses for which students earn an NCE grade will not fulfill any transfer requirements.
- CRT and CR grades may not transfer to another institution *outside the CSCU System*.
 - Schools that require a C- or above or C or above for transfer should accept CRT grades. UConn will accept courses with a CRT grade from the Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2020, and Spring 2021 terms. UConn will not accept courses with a CR grade.
 - Institutions outside the CSCU system that accept courses with CRT and/or CR grades may not accept them for major or general education credit. In many cases, each major department makes the decision about whether to apply transfer courses with a CRT and/or CR grade to major requirements.

Can grades be changed to or from the CRT / CR / NCE option after students are awarded a degree or certificate?

- No. Once the degree or certificate has been awarded, grades cannot be changed for courses within the credential.

How do I let the college know I want to use the CRT / CR / NCE option instead of the regular letter grade for my course(s)?

- Students can select the CRT / CR / NCE option for any course in the Fall 2020, Winter 2020, or Spring 2021 semester by filling out the request form that is located on MyCommnet.

If I have further questions about CRT / CR / NCE option grading, who do I go to for help?

- Students can contact their instructor, advisor, or college counselor to discuss possible implications of switching to the CRT / CR / NCE option
- Students who plan to transfer to an institution outside the CSCU system may need to contact that institution for guidance before making a decision.