

**Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
Midterm Assessment of Undergraduate Students (PPM 107)**

CUSP 2025-26D

Resolution Proposal Form Sent to University Council Cabinet	09/26/2025
First Reading by Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies	11/10/2025
Approval by Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies	01/26/2026
First Reading by Faculty Senate	11/21/2025
Approval by Faculty Senate	02/06/2026
Staff Senate Comment	11/17/2025
Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate Comment	12/05/2025
Graduate and Professional Student Senate Waived Right to Comment	02/02/2026
Undergraduate Student Senate Waived Right to Comment	02/02/2026
First Reading, University Council	02/16/2026
Approved, University Council	03/02/2026
Approved, President	03/03/2026
Effective Date	Fall 2026

WHEREAS, Presidential Policy Memorandum 107 (PPM 107) established a midterm university assessment that would provide a course midterm grade of “S” for “Satisfactory” for students with a grade of C or higher and “U” for Unsatisfactory for students earning below a C; and

WHEREAS, PPM 107 requires midterm grades only for first year and transfer students during their first semester, so that students and academic advisors are aware of academic progress; and

WHEREAS, the broad “S” and “U” grading system may be confusing for students due to lack of specific feedback potentially creating a misleading sense of security, difficulty in self-assessment and planning, and a misalignment with course expectations; and

WHEREAS, the “S” and “U” grading system has limited usefulness for advisors and academic support services as it may not flag students who are struggling but still technically passing and therefore delaying intervention and

WHEREAS, the university’s learning management system, Canvas, will soon include a gradebook that connects directly to midterm grade entry; and

WHEREAS, providing a grade that reflects the course’s assigned grade mode (A–F or P/F) offers students a more accurate view of their academic standing; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the University Registrar has the capability to run reports identifying first year and transfer students for midterm grade entry;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that that midterm grade entry will no longer use “S” for “Satisfactory” and “U” for “Unsatisfactory”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that midterm grade entry will use the assigned grade mode for each course to provide first year and transfer students with midterm grades; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that the Office of the University Registrar will provide reports to instructors of record and the student support community identifying first year and transfer students who should receive midterm grades.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following revision of PPM 107 be adopted.

Midterm Assessment of Undergraduate Students

Policy Memorandum No. 107

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies

Approved by University Council: April 16, 1990

Approved by the President: April 16, 1990

Updates Effective: *Fall 2026*

The University Council, on recommendation of the Commission on Undergraduate Studies, unanimously approved a resolution which will produce a midterm **assessment of "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory" grade report** for freshmen and transfer students during the fall semester only. Intended as an early indication of the student's progress, this assessment is designed to make the advising process more effective, as well as to encourage greater student-faculty contact.

Following is the text of the resolution as adopted by Council.

WHEREAS, entering freshmen and transfer students should be helped to better assess their academic success during the first semester at Virginia Tech, and

WHEREAS, academic advisors would be aided by having all possible information to advise these students in a timely manner as to their academic progress, and

WHEREAS, the current system of midterm reports for some students has proven successful in the prediction of academic performance,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED

1. That the University Registrar provide at the midterm of each Fall semester, a grade report for each first term student.

~~2. That these grade reports simply reflect satisfactory or unsatisfactory progress.~~

~~3. That satisfactory progress be defined as "C" or better.~~

2. That this report is to be informational and not made part of the student's official transcript.

3. That a copy of the report be sent to both the student's academic advisor as well as the student's academic dean.

JDM:lg

President's Policy Memorandum

Policy Memorandum No. 107



Staff Senate Comments
CUSP Resolution 2025-26D
11/17/2025

Staff Senate has reviewed CUSP Resolution 2025-26C and has no questions or comments.

Staff senate has no further comment.

Thank you,

Gabe Petry, Chair, Staff Senate Policies and Issues Committee



AP Faculty Senate Comments

CUSP 2025-26D - Resolution to Revise PPM 107 Midterm Assessment of Undergraduate Students

December 5, 2025

The A/P Faculty Senate Policies and Issues Committee has reviewed and approves/endorsees CUSP 2025-26D - Resolution to Revise PPM 107 Midterm Assessment of Undergraduate Students.

Although the resolution received majority approval and endorsement from the A/P Faculty Senators, we are providing all submitted comments for your awareness and thoughtful consideration. A formal response to these remarks is not required:

Can we change the word freshman/freshmen to first-year?

Will spring admits receive mid-term grades or only fall admits?