

# AB104 INFORMATION

## AB104 UPDATE

On July 1, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 104 into law, and we'd like to provide you with important information on how this legislation may relate to your student. The bill contained three major provisions: retention, grading, and graduation policies.

Below you will find information about each provision:

### GRADUATION POLICIES

AB 104 exempts 2020-21 juniors and seniors from high school graduation requirements beyond statewide requirements if they are not on track to graduate in four years and requires school districts to provide opportunities for juniors and seniors to meet statewide graduation requirements through, among other avenues, a fifth year of high school.

Please contact your school site with any additional questions you may have.

### GRADING

AB 104 permits parents of students who were in high school in 2020-21 (or the student, if they have turned 18) to request letter grades for last year be changed to Pass/No Pass on transcripts. The new law requires CSU, and encourages UC and private postsecondary institutions, to accept those grade designations without prejudice.

For the 2020–21 through 2023–24 school year, the following postsecondary institutions that will accept, for admission purposes, a transcript with a Pass or No Pass grade instead of a letter grade for an applicant pursuant to *Education Code* Section 49066.5(b).

## Official Postsecondary Institution Name

### California State University Schools:

- California State University, Bakersfield
- California State University Channel Islands
- California State University, Chico
- California State University, Dominguez Hills
- California State University, East Bay
- California State University, Fresno
- California State University, Fullerton

- Humboldt State University
- California State University, Long Beach
- California State University, Los Angeles
- California State University Maritime Academy
- California State University, Monterey Bay
- California State University, Northridge
- California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
- California State University, Sacramento
- California State University, San Bernardino
- San Diego State University
- San Francisco State University
- San José State University
- California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
- California State University San Marcos
- Sonoma State University
- California State University, Stanislaus

### University of California (UC) Schools:

- UC Berkeley
- UC Davis
- UC Irvine
- UC Los Angeles
- UC Merced
- UC Riverside
- UC San Diego
- UC San Francisco
- UC Santa Barbara
- UC Santa Cruz

### Private Universities:

- Saint Mary's College of California
- Holy Names University
- Pitzer College
- University of La Verne
- Westmont College
- Santa Clara University
- University of Saint Katherine
- University of Southern California
- Art Center College of Design
- California Baptist University
- University of San Francisco
- La Sierra University
- Mount Saint Mary's University

Some post-secondary institutions, including those in other states, may not accept a Pass or No Pass grade instead of a letter grade for admissions purposes.

# GRADE CHANGE APPLICATION SCHOOL YEAR 2020–2021

**Instructions:**

Parents of students shall complete the form below to request a grade change for the 2020–21 school year. Fill in all fields, sign the form, and submit to your child’s local educational agency.

**Student Information:**

First Name:  Last Name:

Student ID:  Student Grade: 9  10  11  12

**School Information:**

Learning for Life Charter School

Term: Quarter 1  Quarter 2  Quarter 3  Quarter 4  Summer

**Courses to be changed:**

Course Code	Course Title	Teacher Name	Current Grade	Grade Change P/NP

**Education Code:**

Pursuant to *Education Code* Section 49066.5 (2)(b): The parent, guardian, or education rights holder of a pupil or, for a pupil 18 years of age or older, the pupil who was enrolled in high school and enrolled in a course during the 2020–21 school year may apply to the pupil’s local educational agency to have a letter grade earned for that course, as reflected on the pupil’s transcript, changed to a Pass or No Pass grade.

**Parent/Guardian/Education Rights Holder Signature:**

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Today's Date

## **RETENTION**

In preparation for the 2021-22 school year, students will be eligible for a retention consultation if they received deficient grades for at least one-half of their coursework in 2020-21 and their parents are interested in holding them back a grade level. Deficient grades include grades of D, F, or NM (No Mark). This temporary retention policy is in addition to any existing school retention policies. Students who were in 12th grade in 2020-21 are not eligible.

Parents/guardians of eligible students must request the retention consultation in writing. Schools then have 30 calendar days to hold the consultation and 10 calendar days after that meeting to issue a final decision.

### **How to Request Retention Consultation**

If you would like to request a retention consultation for your “eligible pupil” (a pupil who has received deficient grades for at least one-half of the pupil’s coursework in the 2020-21 academic year), please follow these steps:

1. Review the Frequently Asked Questions below
2. Print, fill out, sign, and date the AB 104 Retention Consultation Request form by August 31, 2021. The form is included below.
3. Submit the form to LFLCS, in person, via email, or US mail.
4. You will be contacted, and a consultation meeting will be held within 30 calendar days after submitting your request.

### **Retention Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Who can apply for the AB 104 Retention?**

Students in grades 7-11 that are eligible pupils. An “eligible pupil” is defined as a student who received deficient grades for at least one-half of the student’s coursework in 2020-2021 academic year. Deficient grades for 7-11 graders are the following: D, F, or NM (No Mark)

#### **How soon will the meeting be held after I submit my AB 104 Retention Consultation request?**

The consultation meeting must be held within 30 calendar days after receiving a written request for an “eligible pupil”.

#### **If a student has been previously retained does the AB 104 Retention apply?**

If your student is an “eligible pupil”, you may request the AB 104 Retention Consultation

#### **How soon will I be notified of the final determination of the student’s retention?**

You will be notified within 10 calendar days of the consultation of the final determination.

#### **If I am retained, do I get an extra year of athletic eligibility for high school sports?**

- According to [California Interscholastic Federation \(CIF\) Bylaw 204](#), students are eligible for 8 CONSECUTIVE semesters of athletic participation. “Once a student attends a class and is continuously enrolled for 15 school days that clock begins”.
- A school cannot grant any additional semesters of athletic eligibility.
- In extremely rare circumstances, CIF can grant a hardship as described in [CIF Bylaws 203 and 213](#).

### **If I am an elementary school or middle school student, can this affect my future high school sports eligibility?**

Retention can affect future athletic eligibility. California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) has rules around the age of students and eligibility. Please refer to [CIF Bylaws 203 and 204](#) to read about the current age eligibility rules for high school sports

### **What does the research say about retention?**

Below are some studies about the effects of pupil retention.

- Jimerson, Shane, Sarah M. Woehr, and Amber M. Kaufman. 2007. [\*Grade Retention and Promotion: Information for Parents\*](#) (PDF). Bethesda, Maryland: National Association for School Psychologists (accessed April 28, 2016).
  - Grade retention is one of the most powerful predictors of high school dropout. In adolescence, retained students are more likely to experience problems such as poor interactions with peers, disliking school, behavior problems, and lower self-esteem.
- Learning Disabilities Association. 1998. [\*To Promote or Retain?\*](#) Pittsburgh, PA: Learning Disabilities Association (accessed July 6, 2015).
  - The weight of the evidence of literally hundreds of studies shows that retaining children does not produce higher achievement. Rather than flunking students, schools should provide high quality instruction for children who find learning difficult.
- Thompson, C. and E. Cunningham. 2000. [\*Retention and Social Promotion: Research and Implications for Policy\*](#) (PDF). ERIC Digest Number 161 (accessed July 6, 2015).
  - Retaining students, regardless of the grade at which they are retained, increases the likelihood that they will drop out of school. Consistent with the Chicago findings, the advantage for retained students declined each year and disappeared altogether after three years.

**Learning for Life Charter School**

3180 Imjin Rd, Suite 110, Marina, CA 93933

***AB 104 – Retention Consultation Request***

**(This request must be submitted by August 31, 2021)**

For the 2021-22 academic year, AB 104 bill requires an LEA to offer the parent/guardian a consultation upon receiving a written request to retain an eligible pupil. “Eligible Pupil” is defined as a pupil who has received “deficient grades for at least one-half of the pupil’s coursework in the 2020-21 academic year.”

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (20-21 school year): \_\_\_\_\_

**Subject: Request for Retention Consultation**

In the area below, note anything else you would like considered during the retention consultation meeting:

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We, the parents/guardians of the above named student, request a retention consultation as our student is an eligible pupil.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

