



# GPA Highlights

## What's a Grade Point Average?

A GPA is the average of grades a student earns at the end of a semester obtained by dividing the total number of grade points by the total number of credit hours attempted. The cumulative GPA is the average of all college work attempted (attempted hours = the number of hours carried for a letter grade – grades of “W”, “S”, “U”, “T”, “NR”, and “Audit” are not counted).

## How do I calculate my GPA?

- Add all hours attempted (NOT hours earned).
- Determine the grade points for each course based on the following:  
 A = 4.0 grade points    C = 2.0 grade points  
 B+ = 3.5 grade points    D+ = 1.5 grade points  
 B = 3.0 grade points    D = 1.0 grade points  
 C+ = 2.5 grade points    F = 0.0 grade points
- Multiply the semester hours attempted for each course by the grade points for each course grade.
- Total the grade points.
- Divide the total number of grade points by the total number of hours attempted.

Example: Fall Term

Course	Grade	(grade points)	Credit hours attempted	Credit hours earned	Total grade points
AEGL101	B+	3.5	3	3	10.5
AMTH141	A	4.0	4	4	16.0
ACHM101	C	2.0	4	4	8.0
ASCY101	W	0.0	0	0	0
APSY101	F	0.0	3	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>34.5</b>

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{grade pts.}}{\text{hrs. attempted}} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{34.5}{14} \quad \text{or} \quad 2.46$$

## To compute a Cumulative GPA:

- Total all grade points from all terms.
- Total all hours attempted for all terms.
- Divide grade points by all hours attempted.

Cumulative GPA = all grade points divided by all hours attempted.

Example:

Spring Term – hours attempted 15, grade points 45  
 Fall Term – hours attempted 14, grade points 34.5  
 Totals – hours attempted 29, grade points 79.5  
 Cumulative GPA =  $\frac{79.5}{29}$  or 2.74

## Probation and Suspension

The suspension and probation policy described below applies to all USCA students regardless of the year when they first started attendance at the University. Suspension and probation are based on the University of South Carolina system cumulative GPA. The following chart shows the various levels of grade point hours and GPA's for both suspension and probation.

GPA Hours	Probation Levels	Suspension Levels
0 - 14	Below 1.2 CGPA	Not applicable
15 – 30	Below 1.4 CGPA	Below 1.0 CGPA
31 – 45	Below 1.6 CGPA	Below 1.4 CGPA
46 – 89	Below 1.8 CGPA	Below 1.6 CGPA
90 – 105	Below 2.0 CGPA	Below 1.8 CGPA
106 or more	Not applicable	Below 2.0 CGPA

Probation is a warning to the student that great effort should be taken to improve the cumulative system GPA in the next semester. It is quite likely that students on probation will eventually be placed on academic suspension unless they take their period of probation seriously. There is no separation from the University involved with probation, but *students on probation may not take more than four classes* (thirteen credit hours maximum) until the GPA rises above the probationary level. Students on probation should consult with their advisor and identify what changes need to be made in order to be successful. Students who fail to adjust their schedules to meet these guidelines will face cancellation of their schedules. Students placed on probation will be notified in writing by the Registrar's Office and will be reminded of this policy.

Suspension does mean that a student may not attend the University during the time of his/her suspension. For first suspension, this is one regular semester; for second suspension, two regular semesters; and for third suspension, the student may not return. The Registrar's Office sends both suspension and probation notices to the student's permanent address. These notices include all the information students need concerning their ability to continue at the University and the petitioning procedure.

## Classification of Students

Classification is based on the total number of semester credit hours earned. A student must have earned:

- 30 hours to be classified as a **sophomore**,
- 60 hours to be classified as a **junior**,
- 90 hours to be classified as a **senior**.



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**If you have 15 credit hours and a 1.5 GPA, you will need:**

23 credits with a 4.0 GPA  
25 credits with a 3.9 GPA  
29 credits with a 3.8 GPA  
33 credits with a 3.7 GPA  
38 credits with a 3.6 GPA  
45 credits with a 3.5 GPA  
57 credits with a 3.4 GPA  
75 credits with a 3.3 GPA

**to achieve a 3.0 GPA**

**If you have 15 credit hours and a 2.0 GPA, you will need:**

15 credits with a 4.0 GPA  
17 credits with a 3.9 GPA  
19 credits with a 3.8 GPA  
22 credits with a 3.7 GPA  
25 credits with a 3.6 GPA  
30 credits with a 3.5 GPA  
38 credits with a 3.4 GPA  
50 credits with a 3.3 GPA

**to achieve a 3.0 GPA**

**If you have 15 credit hours and a 2.5 GPA, you will need:**

8 credits with a 4.0 GPA  
9 credits with a 3.9 GPA  
10 credits with a 3.8 GPA  
11 credits with a 3.7 GPA  
13 credits with a 3.6 GPA  
15 credits with a 3.5 GPA  
19 credits with a 3.4 GPA  
25 credits with a 3.3 GPA

**to achieve a 3.0 GPA**

**The more hours you earn, the more difficult it becomes to raise your GPA.**

For admission into the Professional Programs in the School of **Business** and the School of **Education** and the Clinical **Nursing** courses, you **must** meet the following G.P.A. requirements along with several other requirements listed in the *USCA Bulletin*.

## School of Business

Cumulative overall GPA (collegiate GPA) of **2.50** or higher

## School of Education

A cumulative GPA of at least **2.75** for **all** undergraduate course work, including courses NOT taken at USCA

**Exercise and Sports Science** concentration requirements:

Basic Sciences: 3.00

Fitness Management: 2.00

## Nursing

GPA of **2.75** or higher

(Transfer students, change of major students, students with undergraduate degrees, and returning students with at least a 12 month absence may be considered by meeting other criteria – see the *Bulletin* or the Nursing department.)

**Visit the Academic Success Center website to use our online GPA Calculator, and to find out about resources to help you raise your GPA!**

