



GEISEL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT DARTMOUTH  
(formerly Dartmouth Medical School)  
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR  
LEBANON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03756

**DOCTOR OF MEDICINE (MD) GRADING SYSTEM:**

**Prior to September 1985** – grading is Honors/Pass/Fail; **Effective September 1985** – Starting with entering class, grading is Honors/High Pass/Pass/Fail; **Effective June 1993** – M1 and M2 student grading is Honors/Pass/Fail; **Effective August 2009** – M1 student grading is Pass/Fail only; **Effective August 2011** – M2 grading is Pass/Fail only; **Effective April 2025** – M3 and M4 core clerkship grading is Honors/Pass/Fail.

**Electives: Prior to July 1983** – grading is Pass/Fail; **Effective July 1983 to June 1988** – grading is Honors/Pass/Fail; **Effective July 1988** – grading is primarily Honors/High Pass/Pass/Fail with some courses grading Pass/Fail.

**Explanation of Grades:**

**H – Honors** indicates quality which is distinctly superior to what is normally expected.

**HP – High Pass** indicates quality which is clearly above what is normally expected.

**P – Pass** indicates good quality which is worthy of credit.

**F – Fail** indicates that the work does not meet passing standards as established at the beginning of the course. Other grounds for a grade of Fail may include, but are not limited to, not submitting required work on time or unprofessional conduct (e.g., cheating, plagiarism).

**INC – Incomplete** indicates work still in progress and is awarded when performance cannot be assessed because of failure to submit required work due to an excused absence or other unanticipated circumstances. The grade is temporary and is distinct from a grade of Fail. The work needed to convert a grade of INC to a passing grade should be clearly outlined to the student.

**CR – Credit** is given for a required course through demonstrated proficiency with approval from the appropriate department.

**NRC – Non-Required Course** is given for an M1 or M2 “elective” which has been satisfactorily completed but is not assigned credit toward degree requirements.

**PAS – Passing** grade for a course which is Pass/Fail. (It is distinct from the P grade used in a tiered grading system).

**W – Withdrawal** from a course and is considered a non-punitive grade.

**\*\* or IP – In progress** and indicates a multi-term course for which a grade is given upon completion of the last term.

**\*** – An **asterisk** next to a grade indicates that the course has been repeated.

**ASY – Academic Scholar Year** and is typically not assigned credit.

**MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) AND MASTER OF SCIENCE (MS) GRADING SYSTEM:**

**Effective July 2025** – The MPH and MS programs officially transitioned to the Geisel School of Medicine. The MPH program was previously under The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy & Clinical Practice (formerly The Center for the Evaluative Clinical Sciences at Dartmouth Medical School). The MS programs were previously under Dartmouth’s Guarini School of Graduate and Advanced Studies.

All MPH and MS Credits on the transcript represent Course Units. Each Course Unit may be considered the equivalent of a semester course worth 3.5 Credits or a quarter course worth 5.0 Credits.

**Explanation of Grades:**

**HP – High Pass** indicates work of quality that is distinctly superior to what is normally expected of a graduate student. Denotes high standing and satisfactory progress.

**P – Pass** indicates work of good quality which is worthy of graduate credit. This would be the most common grade, denoting satisfactory progress.

**LP – Low Pass** indicates work which is acceptable for graduate credit, but the student exhibited one or more serious deficiencies. Only two LP grades are acceptable for degree credit. If a student receives two LP grades, they will be placed on probation.

**NC – No Credit** indicates work which is not acceptable for graduate credit and automatically places the student on probation.

**INC – Incomplete** indicates work still in progress. Incomplete is a temporary notation placed on a student’s record to indicate that the work has not yet been completed, and therefore a final grade has not been submitted by the instructor.

**ON – Ongoing** is used when course work extends beyond the limit of a single term.

**CT – Credit** indicates satisfactory work in certain courses in which assignment of a grade of HP, P, or LP is not appropriate. The grade CT is the only passing grade in a course in which it is used.

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