

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The FAQs below are provided as information to support high school principals, counselors, and teachers within the District. Considering that not every high school will use GradPoint in the same manner, additional questions may arise. Please feel free to follow-up with the Chief Academic Office Secondary Team to learn more.

Q	What is <i>GradPoint</i>?
A	<i>GradPoint</i> is a comprehensive online learning resource offered to educational leaders in Shelby County High Schools for use in meeting the needs of students identified at risk for course failure. Through the system’s flex and prescriptive path courses, course teachers can more readily provide students with standards-based learning support to recover course grades and/or credits needed for graduation.
Q	What is the difference between a <i>Flex Course</i> and a <i>Prescriptive Course</i>?
A	<p>Through the <i>GradPoint</i> system, students are able to access standards-based learning content in more than 100 courses offered via multiple learning paths. <i>GradPoint</i>’s blended learning course paths are designed for remediation, grade recovery, course/credit recovery, and/or dropout prevention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flex Courses are used for Grade Recovery and are appropriate for students who are struggling with specific course content. • Prescriptive Courses are used for Course/Credit Recovery and are appropriate for students who have unsuccessfully attempted to earn a half or full course credit.
Q	Which courses are provided in <i>GradPoint</i>?
A	<i>GradPoint</i> offers variety of courses for grade and course/credit recovery. The most up-to-date course listing will be found in the <i>Pearson Course Catalog</i> . In <i>GradPoint</i> , full credit courses are separated in to two parts designated by the letters A and B (e.g., Biology A or Biology B). This A and B designation should not be confused with the local use of A and B designations indicating full year versions of semester courses (e.g., Biology I or Algebra IA).
Q	Which students should be considered for grade and/or course/credit recovery in <i>GradPoint</i>?
A	When identifying students for grade or course/credit recovery in <i>GradPoint</i> , school leaders should consider a students’ reading level, comfort with technology, ability to work independently and motivation for program use. Whether a student uses the program for grade or course/credit recovery, school leaders should be sure students have the necessary supports to be successful. It is important to note <u>prescriptive courses are not</u>

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	approved by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA); student athletes should not be considered for course/credit recovery in <i>GradPoint</i> .
Q	Which teacher leaders should be considered to support grade and/or course/credit recovery programming through <i>GradPoint</i>?
A	Teachers who recognize technology as a tool, have a growth mindset, and are data-focused should be considered for teacher leadership roles in supporting <i>GradPoint</i> implementation in a high school. It is important to note <u>all teacher users are expected to provide remediation and support to students, as needed.</u>
Q	What other policy information should I read as I consider <i>GradPoint</i> as a grade and/or course/credit recovery option for my students?
A	<p>Educational leaders should familiarize themselves with <u>all district and state policies concerning course instruction</u>, but special attention should be paid to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelby County Board of Education Online courses and Online Course/Credit Recovery Policy No. 5007 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “...At a minimum, the student must: Complete the district’s course/credit recovery application process. Provide parent or guardian consent to apply for course/credit recovery. Have earned a failing grade not less than 50% in the course...” ○ “...Students may apply a maximum of six (6) credits through course/credit recovery toward graduation...” ○ “...Successful completion of course/credit recovery will be recorded as an additional entry on the transcript with a course recovery designation. The original failing grade remains on the transcript and is counted in the student’s grade point average (GPA). The grading formula for course/credit recovery shall include: 1) weighting of the original failing grade at 5% and 2) weighting of the course/credit recovery grade at 95%. For example, a student earning an original failing grade of 50 weighted at 5% and a course/credit recovery grade of 71 weighted at 95% would earn a grade of 69.95, rounded up to 70 on his/her transcript for the course/credit recovery course. Course/credit recovery grades shall be posted under the name of the original teacher of record...” • Tennessee State Board of Education High School Policy 2.103 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “...The student’s parent or legal guardian gives written consent for the student to enroll in the proposed credit recovery course. Parents/guardians should be informed that not all postsecondary institutions will accept credit recovery courses for credit and that the

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	<p>NCAA Clearinghouse will not accept credit recovery courses for credit...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “...Credit recovery teachers of record must work closely with credit recovery facilitators on class content and instruction...” • GradPoint: Compliance with NCAA Eligibility Requirements and NCAA Bylaw 14.3.1.2.2 Nontraditional Courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Per NCAA rules on Non-Traditional Courses, the courses have to be approved. The submission for approval can only come from the accrediting institution. The district or sites have to get the approval for their courses not content. GradPoint cannot submit for approval since our customers use their own district teachers. <i>Only vendors that provide instructional services (provides a teaching service and offers credits) can submit their courses to the NCAA for non-traditional course approval.</i>” ○ Note: Prescriptive courses are NOT approved for course/credit recovery for student athletes.
Q	How do students access <i>GradPoint</i>?
A	<p>Students are able to access <i>GradPoint</i> by navigating the web to the school’s <i>GradPoint</i> URL and entering their username and password. The default setting for students’ username and password is studentID@student.scsk12.org, where the “studentID” is the six-digit “New PS Student Number.” Students should be prompted to change their password upon initial login. Instructions for changing passwords can be found in the <i>GradPoint 2.0 Teacher Guide</i> (page 6).</p>
Q	How should courses be named in <i>GradPoint</i>?
A	<p>There is flexibility in the naming convention of courses in <i>GradPoint</i>. Many <i>GradPoint</i> Administrators (e.g., principals, counselors, teacher leaders) find adding words to course titles to be useful in quickly identifying current courses; however, words should not be deleted from course titles to accommodate the addition of identifying text. For example, the course title <i>HS: Chemistry A (Prescriptive)</i> may be changed to <i>HS: Chemistry A (Prescriptive)- DoeJ</i>, but the course title should not be changed to <i>Chemistry-DoeJQ</i>.</p>
Q	How do teachers and administrators access <i>GradPoint</i> resources?
A	<p>Teachers and administrators should navigate the web to http://mypearsontraining.com/ to access <i>On-Demand Training, Webinar Registration, Guides & Resources, and Quick Tips</i> for <i>GradPoint</i> use. New users should register to create a free <i>New User Account</i> using their SCS email address and their <i>School Customer Number</i>, which can be found in the principal’s <i>Welcome Letter</i> and/or <i>Getting Started with GradPoint</i> email.</p>

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Q	<p>How are grade and/or course/credit recovery courses from <i>GradPoint</i> entered on a student’s transcript?</p>
A	<p>The procedure for grade entry will vary based upon the student’s course enrollment type.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For <u>Grade Recovery</u>, students should be enrolled in a <i>GradPoint Flex Course</i>. Members of the School Leadership Team should collaborate to determine the best implementation procedure for recovering course grades through <i>GradPoint</i> (e.g., using Module grades to replace or average with existing grades, requiring Module completion before retaking tests, assigning Modules as homework or classwork, and/or other school-based recovery solutions). Recovered grades should be entered by teachers in the <i>PowerTeacher Gradebook</i> with an appropriate description. • For <u>Course Recovery</u>, students should be enrolled in a <i>GradPoint Prescriptive Course</i> and a Credit Recovery Course should be added to the extended periods (e.g., Period 8, Period 9, Period 10) on the student’s schedule in PowerSchool. Please contact the Department of Student Information Management to request the addition of course codes for credit/course recovery courses to your schools’ course list in SMS. The final grade, identified with “CR” for Course/Credit Recovery, should be added as a new entry on the student’s transcript. See SCS Policy 5007 for guidance on grade calculation.

Should you have additional questions about *GradPoint* use, feel free to contact:

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