

How Switched-On Schoolhouse® Calculates Grade Point Averages (GPAs)

Switched-On Schoolhouse® (SOS) considers full year (10-13 unit) courses as earning one full credit hour, single semester (5-6 unit) courses earn a half (0.5) credit hour.

The default SOS Grading Scale at the school level is set like this:

A = 94-100	B = 86-93	C = 77-85	D = 70-76	F = 69 or less
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SOS uses "whole grades" only; no plus + or minus - grades are allowed.

Note The Grading Scale set for the school is the one used to calculate the GPA for a course and those values cascade down to the individual student Grades settings and subject Grades settings. However, if you customized the Grading Scale for an individual student, then that is the Grading Scale used. Likewise, if you customized the Grading Scale for a subject for an individual student, then that is the Grading Scale used to calculate the grade for that course.

Calculating the GPA involves three steps:

1. Determine the number of credit hours the student received.
2. Determine the number of points earned.
3. Divide the total number of points earned by the total number of credit hours attempted.

Note No credit is granted for failed courses.

The first step in calculating the GPA is to determine the number of credit hours received and the number of points earned using the Grade Scale chart below based on the default (94/86/77/70) grading scale.

Grade Scale (Weighting)			
Using 94/86/77/70 Grade Scale			
Letter Grade	Numeric Grade	1 Credit Point	0.5 Credit Points
A	94-100	4.00	2.00
B	86 - 93	3.00	1.50
C	77 - 85	2.00	1.00
D	70 - 76	1.00	0.50
F	69 or less	0.00	0.00

The chart below shows an example for a student that completed seven courses using the score/letter grade earned and credit hour points.

Course	Score / Letter grade earned	Points earned (or individual course GPA)	Credits received
Algebra II	95 / A	4.0	1
American History	90 / B	3.0	1
English III	89 / B	3.0	1

Course	Score / Letter grade earned	Points earned (or individual course GPA)	Credits received
Chemistry	98 / A	4.0	1
Bible Doctrine	96 / A	4.0	1
Physical Fitness	69 / F	0	0.5
Personal Financial Literacy	90 / B	1.5	0.5
Totals		19.5	6

In the example above, the student earned 19.5 points and 6 credits. To get the cumulative GPA, divide the total number of points earned (19.5) by the total number of credits (6), yielding a GPA of 3.25.

There are a number of GPA calculators available online. An easy one to use is at <http://www.back2college.com/gpa.htm>.