

18A:62-4.2
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST
Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

LAWS OF: 2025 **CHAPTER:** 105

NJSA: 18A:62-4.2 Concerns grade options at public institutions of higher education for service member and dependents unable to complete course due to military obligation.

BILL NO: S3052 (Substituted for A4878)

SPONSOR(S) Johnson, Gordon M. and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 4/8/2024

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Higher Education

SENATE: Military & Veterans' Affairs

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** 06/30/2025

SENATE: 02/25/2025

DATE OF APPROVAL: 7/22/2025

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (S3052 Sca (1R) enacted)

ADVANCE LAW Yes

PAMPHLET LAW Yes

S3052

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement) Yes

REPRINT(S): Yes SMV 6/13/24 1R

TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL: No

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** Yes

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

A4878

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement)	Yes	
REPRINT(S):	No	
TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL:	No	
COMMITTEE STATEMENT:	ASSEMBLY:	Yes Military & Veterans' Affairs Higher Education
	SENATE:	No

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT:	No
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:	No
VETO MESSAGE:	No
GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes
LEGISLATOR STATEMENT:	Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

CL/MMcB

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 105, *approved July 22, 2025*
Senate, No. 3052 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning service members and their dependents enrolled
2 at public institutions of higher education and amending
3 P.L.1997, c.377.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.377 (C.18A:62-4.2) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 1. a. A **【student at a New Jersey】** service member or dependent
11 of the service member, enrolled in a public institution of higher
12 education who is unable to complete a course due to an unplanned
13 deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military
14 obligation of the service member, shall be entitled to the options set
15 forth in this section with respect to the 【student's】 service
16 member's or dependent's grade for the course.

17 b. A **【student】** service member or dependent who has
18 completed at least **【eight weeks of attendance in a】** 55 percent of
19 the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the
20 faculty member ¹【or】 , the¹ department, ¹the registrar, or the
21 appropriate office at the institution, ¹as applicable, to:

22 (1) receive a letter grade if the faculty member teaching the
23 course determines that the service member or dependent has
24 completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
25 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
26 the grade; 【or】

27 (2) receive a grade of pass or fail based on whether the faculty
28 member teaching the course determines that the service member or
29 dependent has completed sufficient work and there is sufficient
30 evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course,
31 to justify the grade; 【or】

32 (3) receive a grade of incomplete; 【or】

33 (4) withdraw from the course;

34 (5) receive a temporary grade, if applicable; or

35 (6) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if
36 available, with ¹【department】 appropriate¹ approval.

37 c. A **【student】** service member or dependent who has
38 completed less than **【eight weeks of attendance in a】** 55 percent of
39 the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SMV committee amendments adopted June 13, 2024.

- 1 faculty member ¹**["or"]**, ¹the department, ¹the registrar, or the
2 appropriate office at the institution,¹ as applicable, to:
- 3 (1) receive a grade of incomplete if the faculty member teaching
4 the course determines that the service member or dependent has
5 completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
6 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
7 the grade; or
- 8 (2) withdraw from the course; or
- 9 (3) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if
10 available, with ¹**["department"]** appropriate¹ approval.
- 11 d. **["A letter grade or a grade of pass shall only be awarded if, in**
12 **the opinion of the faculty member teaching the course, the student**
13 **has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of**
14 **progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify**
15 **the grade.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. c.)(pending before
16 the Legislature as this bill)
- 17 e. A grade of incomplete shall remain valid for a period of one
18 year after the **["student"]** service member or dependent returns to the
19 **["New Jersey"]** public institution of higher education.
- 20 f. A **["student"]** service member or dependent who chooses to
21 accept a grade of pass or fail may, within one year after returning to
22 the **["New Jersey"]** public institution of higher education, contact the
23 faculty member who taught the course ¹**["or"]**, ¹the academic chair
24 of the department offering the course ¹, the registrar, or the
25 appropriate office at the institution¹ to establish a plan to receive a
26 letter grade for the course by completing the work required for the
27 course, in which case the letter grade shall replace the pass or fail
28 grade as the **["student's"]** service member's or dependent's grade for
29 the course.
- 30 g. A **["student"]** service member or dependent who chooses to
31 withdraw from a course shall receive a full refund of tuition and
32 fees attributable to that course.
- 33 h. A **["student"]** service member or dependent who has paid
34 amounts for room, board or fees shall, except as provided in
35 subsection g. of this section, receive a refund of that portion of
36 those amounts attributable to the time period during which the
37 student or dependent did not use the services for which payment
38 was made.
- 39 i. Any refund payable to a **["student"]** service member or
40 dependent who is a financial aid recipient shall be subject to the
41 applicable State and federal regulations regarding refunds.
- 42 j. As used in this section **["**, "service member"**"]**:
- 43 "Dependent" means an individual who is the dependent child or
44 spouse of a service member.
- 45 "Service member" means an individual who is serving as a
46 member of a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United

1 States, or as a member of the National Guard, or on active duty as a
2 member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

3 (cf: P.L.2021, c.174, s.1)

4

5 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
6 the first full academic year next following the date of enactment.

7

8

9

10

11 Concerns grade options at public institutions of higher education
12 for service member and dependents unable to complete course due
13 to military obligation.

CHAPTER 105

AN ACT concerning service members and their dependents enrolled at public institutions of higher education and amending P.L.1997, c.377.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.377 (C.18A:62-4.2) is amended to read as follows:

C.18A:62-4.2 Options for student at public institution of higher education unable to complete course due to military service.

1. a. A service member or dependent of the service member, enrolled in a public institution of higher education who is unable to complete a course due to an unplanned deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military obligation of the service member, shall be entitled to the options set forth in this section with respect to the service member's or dependent's grade for the course.

b. A service member or dependent who has completed at least 55 percent of the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the faculty member, the department, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution, as applicable, to:

(1) receive a letter grade if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade;

(2) receive a grade of pass or fail based on whether the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course to justify the grade;

(3) receive a grade of incomplete;

(4) withdraw from the course;

(5) receive a temporary grade, if applicable; or

(6) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if available, with appropriate approval.

c. A service member or dependent who has completed less than 55 percent of the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the faculty member, the department, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution, as applicable, to:

(1) receive a grade of incomplete if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade;

(2) withdraw from the course; or

(3) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if available, with appropriate approval.

d. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2025, c.105)

e. A grade of incomplete shall remain valid for a period of one year after the service member or dependent returns to the public institution of higher education.

f. A service member or dependent who chooses to accept a grade of pass or fail may, within one year after returning to the public institution of higher education, contact the faculty member who taught the course, the academic chair of the department offering the course, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution to establish a plan to receive a letter grade for the course by completing the work required for the course, in which case the letter grade shall replace the pass or fail grade as the service member's or dependent's grade for the course.

g. A service member or dependent who chooses to withdraw from a course shall receive a full refund of tuition and fees attributable to that course.

h. A service member or dependent who has paid amounts for room, board, or fees shall, except as provided in subsection g. of this section, receive a refund of that portion of those

amounts attributable to the time period during which the student or dependent did not use the services for which payment was made.

i. Any refund payable to a service member or dependent who is a financial aid recipient shall be subject to the applicable State and federal regulations regarding refunds.

j. As used in this section:

“Dependent” means an individual who is the dependent child or spouse of a service member.

“Service member” means an individual who is serving as a member of a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, or as a member of the National Guard, or on active duty as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to the first full academic year next following the date of enactment.

Approved July 22, 2025.

SENATE, No. 3052

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 8, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Senator PARKER SPACE

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Cruz-Perez and Mukherji

SYNOPSIS

Concerns grade options at public institutions of higher education for service member and dependents unable to complete course due to military obligation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/13/2024)

1 AN ACT concerning service members and their dependents enrolled
2 at public institutions of higher education and amending
3 P.L.1997, c.377.

4
5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.377 (C.18A:62-4.2) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 1. a. A **【student at a New Jersey】** service member or dependent
11 of the service member, enrolled in a public institution of higher
12 education who is unable to complete a course due to an unplanned
13 deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military
14 obligation of the service member, shall be entitled to the options set
15 forth in this section with respect to the **【student's】** service
16 member's or dependent's grade for the course.

17 b. A **【student】** service member or dependent who has
18 completed at least **【eight weeks of attendance in a】** 55 percent of
19 the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the
20 faculty member or department, as applicable, to:

21 (1) receive a letter grade if the faculty member teaching the
22 course determines that the service member or dependent has
23 completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
24 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
25 the grade; 【or】

26 (2) receive a grade of pass or fail based on whether the faculty
27 member teaching the course determines that the service member or
28 dependent has completed sufficient work and there is sufficient
29 evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course,
30 to justify the grade; 【or】

31 (3) receive a grade of incomplete; **【or】**

32 (4) withdraw from the course;

33 (5) receive a temporary grade, if applicable; or

34 (6) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if
35 available, with department approval.

36 c. A **【student】** service member or dependent who has
37 completed less than **【eight weeks of attendance in a】** 55 percent of
38 the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the
39 faculty member or department, as applicable, to:

40 (1) receive a grade of incomplete if the faculty member teaching
41 the course determines that the service member or dependent has
42 completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
43 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
44 the grade; or

45 (2) withdraw from the course; or

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 (3) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if
2 available, with department approval.

3 d. **【A letter grade or a grade of pass shall only be awarded if, in**
4 the opinion of the faculty member teaching the course, the student
5 has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
6 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
7 the grade.】 Deleted by amendment, P.L. c. (pending before the
8 Legislature as this bill)

9 e. A grade of incomplete shall remain valid for a period of one
10 year after the **【student】** service member or dependent returns to the
11 **【New Jersey】** public institution of higher education.

12 f. A **【student】** service member or dependent who chooses to
13 accept a grade of pass or fail may, within one year after returning to
14 the **【New Jersey】** public institution of higher education, contact the
15 faculty member who taught the course or the academic chair of the
16 department offering the course to establish a plan to receive a letter
17 grade for the course by completing the work required for the course,
18 in which case the letter grade shall replace the pass or fail grade as
19 the **【student's】** service member's or dependent's grade for the
20 course.

21 g. A **【student】** service member or dependent who chooses to
22 withdraw from a course shall receive a full refund of tuition and
23 fees attributable to that course.

24 h. A **【student】** service member or dependent who has paid
25 amounts for room, board or fees shall, except as provided in
26 subsection g. of this section, receive a refund of that portion of
27 those amounts attributable to the time period during which the
28 student or dependent did not use the services for which payment
29 was made.

30 i. Any refund payable to a **【student】** service member or
31 dependent who is a financial aid recipient shall be subject to the
32 applicable State and federal regulations regarding refunds.

33 j. As used in this section **【, "service member"】**:

34 “Dependent” means an individual who is the dependent child or
35 spouse of a service member.

36 “Service member” means an individual who is serving as a
37 member of a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United
38 States, or as a member of the National Guard, or on active duty as a
39 member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

40 (cf: P.L.2021, c.174, s.1)

41
42 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
43 the first full academic year next following the date of enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill extends certain options in regard to grades to dependents of service members enrolled in public institutions of higher education who cannot complete a course due to an unplanned military obligation of the service member. The bill also clarifies the scope of existing grade options and establishes additional grade options.

Under current law, a student enrolled in public institution of higher education who is unable to complete a course due to a deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military obligation as a service member has four options in regard to the grade for the course. If the student has completed at least eight weeks of the course, the student may choose to receive a (1) letter grade; (2) pass or fail grade; (3) grade of incomplete; or (4) withdrawal. If the student has completed fewer than eight weeks of the course, the student's options are limited to choosing between receiving an incomplete grade and withdrawing from the course. Current law also specifies that a student who accepts a grade of pass or fail may, within a year of returning to the institution, complete the course work to receive a letter grade.

Under the bill, these grade options are to also be made available to the dependents of the service member. The bill defines a "dependent" as a dependent child or spouse of the service member.

The bill clarifies that the deployment, mobilization, reassignment or other military obligation preventing the service member or dependent from completing the course be unplanned.

The bill also changes the demarcating line of course completion from eight weeks to 55 percent of the duration of the course. If the service member or dependent has completed 55 percent of the duration of the course, receipt of a letter grade would only be granted if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. A grade of pass or fail would also be based on whether the faculty member determines the member or dependent completed sufficient work and there is sufficient evidence of meeting the course requirements. The bill also adds the options of receiving a temporary grade or transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with department approval.

If the service member or dependent has completed less than 55 percent of the duration of the course, the service member or dependent may receive an incomplete for the grade only if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the student or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. The service member or dependent also has an

1 added option of transferring into an equivalent online section of the
2 course when available and with department approval.

3 Finally, the bill specifies that the service member or dependent
4 who initially chose to accept a pass or fail grade, but subsequently
5 returns to the institution within a year to complete course work to
6 receive a letter grade, may contact the faculty member who taught
7 the course or the academic chair of the department offering the
8 course to establish a plan for completing the course work to receive
9 the grade.

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3052

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 8, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Senator PARKER SPACE

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Assemblywoman ELLEN J. PARK

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER

District 28 (Essex and Union)

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Cruz-Perez, Mukherji, Tiver, Wimberly, O'Scanlon,

Assemblymen Torrissi, Atkins, Venezia, Assemblywomen Reynolds-

Jackson, Matsikoudis, Fantasia, Ramirez, Murphy, Assemblyman

Freiman, Assemblywomen Drulis and Simmons

SYNOPSIS

Concerns grade options at public institutions of higher education for service member and dependents unable to complete course due to military obligation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee on June 13, 2024, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2025)

1 AN ACT concerning service members and their dependents enrolled
 2 at public institutions of higher education and amending
 3 P.L.1997, c.377.

4
 5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
 6 *of New Jersey:*

7
 8 1. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.377 (C.18A:62-4.2) is amended to
 9 read as follows:

10 1. a. A **student at a New Jersey** service member or dependent
 11 of the service member, enrolled in a public institution of higher
 12 education who is unable to complete a course due to an unplanned
 13 deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military
 14 obligation of the service member, shall be entitled to the options set
 15 forth in this section with respect to the **student's** service
 16 member's or dependent's grade for the course.

17 b. A **student** service member or dependent who has
 18 completed at least **eight weeks of attendance in a** 55 percent of
 19 the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the
 20 faculty member ¹**or** , the ¹department, ¹the registrar, or the
 21 appropriate office at the institution, ¹as applicable, to:

22 (1) receive a letter grade if the faculty member teaching the
 23 course determines that the service member or dependent has
 24 completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
 25 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
 26 the grade; **or**

27 (2) receive a grade of pass or fail based on whether the faculty
 28 member teaching the course determines that the service member or
 29 dependent has completed sufficient work and there is sufficient
 30 evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course,
 31 to justify the grade; **or**

32 (3) receive a grade of incomplete; **or**

33 (4) withdraw from the course;

34 (5) receive a temporary grade, if applicable; or

35 (6) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if
 36 available, with ¹**department** appropriate ¹approval.

37 c. A **student** service member or dependent who has
 38 completed less than **eight weeks of attendance in a** 55 percent of
 39 the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the
 40 faculty member ¹**or** , the ¹department, ¹the registrar, or the
 41 appropriate office at the institution, ¹as applicable, to:

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **thus** in the above bill is
 not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SMV committee amendments adopted June 13, 2024.

1 (1) receive a grade of incomplete if the faculty member teaching
2 the course determines that the service member or dependent has
3 completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
4 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
5 the grade; or

6 (2) withdraw from the course; or

7 (3) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if
8 available, with ¹【department】 appropriate¹ approval.

9 d. 【A letter grade or a grade of pass shall only be awarded if, in
10 the opinion of the faculty member teaching the course, the student
11 has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
12 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
13 the grade.】 (Deleted by amendment, P.L. c.)(pending before
14 the Legislature as this bill)

15 e. A grade of incomplete shall remain valid for a period of one
16 year after the 【student】 service member or dependent returns to the
17 【New Jersey】 public institution of higher education.

18 f. A 【student】 service member or dependent who chooses to
19 accept a grade of pass or fail may, within one year after returning to
20 the 【New Jersey】 public institution of higher education, contact the
21 faculty member who taught the course ¹【or】 ¹ the academic chair
22 of the department offering the course ¹, the registrar, or the
23 appropriate office at the institution¹ to establish a plan to receive a
24 letter grade for the course by completing the work required for the
25 course, in which case the letter grade shall replace the pass or fail
26 grade as the 【student's】 service member's or dependent's grade for
27 the course.

28 g. A 【student】 service member or dependent who chooses to
29 withdraw from a course shall receive a full refund of tuition and
30 fees attributable to that course.

31 h. A 【student】 service member or dependent who has paid
32 amounts for room, board or fees shall, except as provided in
33 subsection g. of this section, receive a refund of that portion of
34 those amounts attributable to the time period during which the
35 student or dependent did not use the services for which payment
36 was made.

37 i. Any refund payable to a 【student】 service member or
38 dependent who is a financial aid recipient shall be subject to the
39 applicable State and federal regulations regarding refunds.

40 j. As used in this section 【, "service member"】:

41 “Dependent” means an individual who is the dependent child or
42 spouse of a service member.

43 “Service member” means an individual who is serving as a
44 member of a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United

1 States, or as a member of the National Guard, or on active duty as a
2 member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

3 (cf: P.L.2021, c.174, s.1)

4

5 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
6 the first full academic year next following the date of enactment.

ASSEMBLY HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3052

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 12, 2025

The Assembly Higher Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3052 (1R).

This bill extends certain options in regard to grades to dependents of service members enrolled in public institutions of higher education who cannot complete a course due to an unplanned military obligation of the service member. The bill also clarifies the scope of existing grade options and establishes additional grade options.

Under current law, a student enrolled in a public institution of higher education who is unable to complete a course due to a deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military obligation as a service member has four options in regard to the grade for the course. If the student has completed at least eight weeks of the course, the student may choose to receive a letter grade, a pass or fail grade, a grade of incomplete, or withdraw from the course. If the student has completed fewer than eight weeks of the course, the student's options are limited to choosing between receiving an incomplete grade and withdrawing from the course. Current law also specifies that a student who accepts a grade of pass or fail may, within a year of returning to the institution, complete the course work to receive a letter grade.

Under the bill, these grade options are to also be made available to the dependents of the service member. The bill defines a "dependent" as a dependent child or spouse of the service member.

The bill clarifies that the deployment, mobilization, reassignment or other military obligation preventing the service member or dependent from completing the course be unplanned.

The bill also changes the demarcating line of course completion from eight weeks to 55 percent of the duration of the course. If the service member or dependent has completed 55 percent of the duration of the course, receipt of a letter grade would only be granted if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. A grade of pass or fail would also be based on whether the faculty member determines the member or dependent completed sufficient work and there is sufficient evidence of meeting the course requirements. The bill also adds the options of

receiving a temporary grade or transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval. The options are to be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution,

If the service member or dependent has completed less than 55 percent of the duration of the course, the service member or dependent may receive an incomplete grade for the course only if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the student or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. The service member or dependent also has an added option of transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval. The options are to be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution,

Finally, the bill permits a service member or dependent, who initially chose to accept a pass or fail grade but subsequently returns to the institution within one year, to contact the faculty member who taught the course, the academic chair of the department offering the course, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution to establish a plan to receive a letter grade for the course.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 3052 (1R) is identical to Assembly Bill No. 4878, which was also reported by the committee on this date.

SENATE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO SENATE, No. 3052

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 13, 2024

The Senate Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 3052.

As amended, this bill extends certain options in regard to grades to dependents of service members enrolled in public institutions of higher education who cannot complete a course due to an unplanned military obligation of the service member. The bill also clarifies the scope of existing grade options and establishes additional grade options.

Under current law, a student enrolled in public institution of higher education who is unable to complete a course due to a deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military obligation as a service member has four options in regard to the grade for the course. If the student has completed at least eight weeks of the course, the student may choose to receive a (1) letter grade; (2) pass or fail grade; (3) grade of incomplete; or (4) withdrawal. If the student has completed fewer than eight weeks of the course, the student's options are limited to choosing between receiving an incomplete grade and withdrawing from the course. Current law also specifies that a student who accepts a grade of pass or fail may, within a year of returning to the institution, complete the course work to receive a letter grade.

Under the bill, these grade options are to also be made available to the dependents of the service member. The bill defines a "dependent" as a dependent child or spouse of the service member.

The bill clarifies that the deployment, mobilization, reassignment or other military obligation preventing the service member or dependent from completing the course be unplanned.

The bill also changes the demarcating line of course completion from eight weeks to 55 percent of the duration of the course. If the service member or dependent has completed 55 percent of the duration of the course, receipt of a letter grade would only be granted if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. A grade of pass or fail would also be based on whether the faculty member determines the member or

dependent completed sufficient work and there is sufficient evidence of meeting the course requirements. The bill also adds the options of receiving a temporary grade or transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval. The options shall be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution,

If the service member or dependent has completed less than 55 percent of the duration of the course, the service member or dependent may receive an incomplete for the grade only if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the student or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. The service member or dependent also has an added option of transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval. The options shall be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution,

Finally, the bill specifies that the service member or dependent who initially chose to accept a pass or fail grade, but subsequently returns to the institution within a year to complete course work to receive a letter grade, may contact the faculty member who taught the course, the academic chair of the department offering the course, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution to establish a plan for completing the course work to receive the grade.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to add the registrar and the appropriate office at the institution to the list of persons from whom a service member or dependent may seek approval in regard to grades of service members or dependents enrolled in public institutions of higher education who cannot complete a course due to an unplanned military obligation of the service member.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4878

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 17, 2024

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ELLEN J. PARK

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER

District 28 (Essex and Union)

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Torrissi, Atkins, Venezia, Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Matsikoudis, Fantasia, Ramirez, Murphy, Assemblyman Freiman, Assemblywomen Drulis and Simmons

SYNOPSIS

Concerns grade options at public institutions of higher education for service member and dependents unable to complete course due to military obligation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2025)

1 AN ACT concerning service members and their dependents enrolled
2 at public institutions of higher education and amending
3 P.L.1997, c.377.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. Section 1 of P.L.1997, c.377 (C.18A:62-4.2) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 1. a. A **【student at a New Jersey】** service member or dependent
11 of the service member, enrolled in a public institution of higher
12 education who is unable to complete a course due to an unplanned
13 deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military
14 obligation of the service member, shall be entitled to the options set
15 forth in this section with respect to the **【student's】** service
16 member's or dependent's grade for the course.

17 b. A **【student】** service member or dependent who has
18 completed at least **【eight weeks of attendance in a】** 55 percent of
19 the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the
20 faculty member, the department, the registrar, or the appropriate
21 office at the institution, as applicable, to:

22 (1) receive a letter grade if the faculty member teaching the
23 course determines that the service member or dependent has
24 completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of
25 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
26 the grade; 【or】

27 (2) receive a grade of pass or fail based on whether the faculty
28 member teaching the course determines that the service member or
29 dependent has completed sufficient work and there is sufficient
30 evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course,
31 to justify the grade; 【or】

32 (3) receive a grade of incomplete; 【or】

33 (4) withdraw from the course;

34 (5) receive a temporary grade, if applicable; or

35 (6) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if
36 available, with appropriate approval.

37 c. A **【student】** service member or dependent who has
38 completed less than **【eight weeks of attendance in a】** 55 percent of
39 the course duration may choose, subject to approval from the
40 faculty member, the department, the registrar, or the appropriate
41 office at the institution, as applicable, to:

42 (1) receive a grade of incomplete if the faculty member teaching
43 the course determines that the service member or dependent has
44 completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify
2 the grade; or
3 (2) withdraw from the course; or
4 (3) transfer into an equivalent online section of the course, if
5 available, with appropriate approval.
- 6 d. **【A letter grade or a grade of pass shall only be awarded if, in**
7 **the opinion of the faculty member teaching the course, the student**
8 **has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of**
9 **progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify**
10 **the grade.】** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. c.)(pending before
11 the Legislature as this bill)
- 12 e. A grade of incomplete shall remain valid for a period of one
13 year after the **【student】** service member or dependent returns to the
14 **【New Jersey】** public institution of higher education.
- 15 f. A **【student】** service member or dependent who chooses to
16 accept a grade of pass or fail may, within one year after returning to
17 the **【New Jersey】** public institution of higher education, contact the
18 faculty member who taught the course, the academic chair of the
19 department offering the course, the registrar, or the appropriate
20 office at the institution to establish a plan to receive a letter grade
21 for the course by completing the work required for the course, in
22 which case the letter grade shall replace the pass or fail grade as the
23 **【student's】** service member's or dependent's grade for the course.
- 24 g. A **【student】** service member or dependent who chooses to
25 withdraw from a course shall receive a full refund of tuition and
26 fees attributable to that course.
- 27 h. A **【student】** service member or dependent who has paid
28 amounts for room, board or fees shall, except as provided in
29 subsection g. of this section, receive a refund of that portion of
30 those amounts attributable to the time period during which the
31 student or dependent did not use the services for which payment
32 was made.
- 33 i. Any refund payable to a **【student】** service member or
34 dependent who is a financial aid recipient shall be subject to the
35 applicable State and federal regulations regarding refunds.
- 36 j. As used in this section **【, "service member"】**;
37 “Dependent” means an individual who is the dependent child or
38 spouse of a service member.
- 39 “Service member” means an individual who is serving as a
40 member of a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United
41 States, or as a member of the National Guard, or on active duty as a
42 member of the Armed Forces of the United States.
43 (cf: P.L.2021, c.174, s.1)
44
- 45 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
46 the first full academic year next following the date of enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill extends certain options in regard to grades to dependents of service members enrolled in public institutions of higher education who cannot complete a course due to an unplanned military obligation of the service member. The bill also clarifies the scope of existing grade options and establishes additional grade options.

Under current law, a student enrolled in public institution of higher education who is unable to complete a course due to a deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military obligation as a service member has four options in regard to the grade for the course. If the student has completed at least eight weeks of the course, the student may choose to receive a (1) letter grade; (2) pass or fail grade; (3) grade of incomplete; or (4) withdrawal. If the student has completed fewer than eight weeks of the course, the student's options are limited to choosing between receiving an incomplete grade and withdrawing from the course. Current law also specifies that a student who accepts a grade of pass or fail may, within a year of returning to the institution, complete the course work to receive a letter grade.

Under the bill, these grade options are to also be made available to the dependents of the service member. The bill defines a "dependent" as a dependent child or spouse of the service member.

The bill clarifies that the deployment, mobilization, reassignment or other military obligation preventing the service member or dependent from completing the course be unplanned.

The bill also changes the demarcating line of course completion from eight weeks to 55 percent of the duration of the course. If the service member or dependent has completed 55 percent of the duration of the course, receipt of a letter grade would only be granted if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. A grade of pass or fail would also be based on whether the faculty member determines the member or dependent completed sufficient work and there is sufficient evidence of meeting the course requirements. The bill also adds the options of receiving a temporary grade or transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval. The options are to be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, registrar, or appropriate office at the institution,

If the service member or dependent has completed less than 55 percent of the duration of the course, the service member or dependent may receive an incomplete for the grade only if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the student or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. The service member or dependent also has an added option of transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when

1 available and with appropriate approval. The options shall be subject
2 to the approval of the teacher, department, the registrar, or the
3 appropriate office at the institution,
4 Finally, the bill specifies that the service member or dependent
5 who initially chose to accept a pass or fail grade, but subsequently
6 returns to the institution within a year to complete course work to
7 receive a letter grade, may contact the faculty member who taught the
8 course, the academic chair of the department offering the course, the
9 registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution to establish a plan
10 for completing the course work to receive the grade.

ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4878

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 23, 2025

The Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4878.

This bill extends certain options in regard to grades to dependents of service members enrolled in public institutions of higher education who cannot complete a course due to an unplanned military obligation of the service member. The bill also clarifies the scope of existing grade options and establishes additional grade options.

Under current law, a student enrolled in a public institution of higher education who is unable to complete a course due to a deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military obligation as a service member has four options in regard to the grade for the course. If the student has completed at least eight weeks of the course, the student may choose to receive a (1) letter grade; (2) pass or fail grade; (3) grade of incomplete; or (4) withdrawal. If the student has completed fewer than eight weeks of the course, the student's options are limited to choosing between receiving an incomplete grade and withdrawing from the course. Current law also specifies that a student who accepts a grade of pass or fail may, within a year of returning to the institution, complete the course work to receive a letter grade.

Under the bill, these grade options are to also be made available to the dependents of the service member. The bill defines a "dependent" as a dependent child or spouse of the service member.

The bill clarifies that the deployment, mobilization, reassignment or other military obligation preventing the service member or dependent from completing the course be unplanned.

The bill also changes the demarcating line of course completion from eight weeks to 55 percent of the duration of the course. If the service member or dependent has completed 55 percent of the duration of the course, receipt of a letter grade would only be granted if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. A grade of pass or fail would also be based on whether the faculty member determines the member or dependent completed sufficient work and there is sufficient evidence of meeting the course requirements. The bill also adds the options of

receiving a temporary grade or transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval. The options are to be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, registrar, or appropriate office at the institution.

If the service member or dependent has completed less than 55 percent of the duration of the course, the service member or dependent may receive an incomplete for the grade only if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the student or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. The service member or dependent also has an added option of transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval. The options shall be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, registrar, or appropriate office at the institution.

Finally, the bill specifies that the service member or dependent who initially chose to accept a pass or fail grade, but subsequently returns to the institution within a year to complete course work to receive a letter grade, may contact the faculty member who taught the course, the academic chair of the department offering the course, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution to establish a plan for completing the course work to receive the grade.

ASSEMBLY HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4878

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 12, 2025

The Assembly Higher Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4878.

This bill extends certain options in regard to grades to dependents of service members enrolled in public institutions of higher education who cannot complete a course due to an unplanned military obligation of the service member. The bill also clarifies the scope of existing grade options and establishes additional grade options.

Under current law, a student enrolled in a public institution of higher education who is unable to complete a course due to a deployment, mobilization, reassignment, or other military obligation as a service member has four options in regard to the grade for the course. If the student has completed at least eight weeks of the course, the student may choose to receive a letter grade, a pass or fail grade, a grade of incomplete, or withdraw from the course. If the student has completed fewer than eight weeks of the course, the student's options are limited to choosing between receiving an incomplete grade and withdrawing from the course. Current law also specifies that a student who accepts a grade of pass or fail may, within a year of returning to the institution, complete the course work to receive a letter grade.

Under the bill, these grade options are to also be made available to the dependents of the service member. The bill defines a "dependent" as a dependent child or spouse of the service member.

The bill clarifies that the deployment, mobilization, reassignment or other military obligation preventing the service member or dependent from completing the course be unplanned.

The bill also changes the demarcating line of course completion from eight weeks to 55 percent of the duration of the course. If the service member or dependent has completed 55 percent of the duration of the course, receipt of a letter grade would only be granted if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the service member or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. A grade of pass or fail would also be based on whether the faculty member determines the member or dependent completed sufficient work and there is sufficient evidence of meeting the course requirements. The bill also adds the options of receiving a temporary grade or transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval.

The options are to be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution,

If the service member or dependent has completed less than 55 percent of the duration of the course, the service member or dependent may receive an incomplete grade for the course only if the faculty member teaching the course determines that the student or dependent has completed sufficient work, and there is sufficient evidence of progress toward meeting the requirements of the course, to justify the grade. The service member or dependent also has an added option of transferring into an equivalent online section of the course when available and with appropriate approval. The options are to be subject to the approval of the teacher, department, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution,

Finally, the bill permits a service member or dependent, who initially chose to accept a pass or fail grade but subsequently returns to the institution within one year, to contact the faculty member who taught the course, the academic chair of the department offering the course, the registrar, or the appropriate office at the institution to establish a plan to receive a letter grade for the course.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 4878 is identical to Senate Bill No. 3052 (1R), which was also reported by the committee on this date.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

Posted on - 07/22/2025

TRENTON – Today, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law:

S2167/A1406 (Ruiz, Vitale/Haider, Swain) – Requires public and certain nonpublic schools to comply with breakfast and lunch standards adopted by USDA

S3052/A4878 (Johnson, Space/Park, Tucker, Speight) – Concerns grade options at public institutions of higher education for service member and dependents unable to complete course due to military obligation

S3711/A5153 (McKeon, Zwicker/Haider, Reynolds-Jackson, Spearman) – Makes annual allocation of \$500,000 from Clean Communities Program Fund for public outreach concerning single-use plastics reduction program permanent.

SCS for S3982/A4592 (Ruiz/Reynolds-Jackson/Carter, Morales) – Requires certain information be provided to parent at least two business days prior to annual Individualized Education Program (IEP) team meeting; establishes IEP Improvement Working Group in DOE.

S4263/A5408 (Vitale, Scutari/Carter, Sumter, Speight) – Revises certain provisions concerning, and establishes certain education and data reporting requirements related to, involuntary commitment.

S4426/A5622 (Burzichelli, Singer/Schnall, Peterpaul, Kane) – Appropriates funds to DEP for environmental infrastructure projects for FY2026

S4439/A5729 (Lagana, Cryan/Swain) – Establishes protections for student-athletes and certain institutions of higher education concerning name, image, or likeness compensation; repeals “New Jersey Fair Play Act.”

A3128/SCS for S4071/S3155 (Coughlin, Wimberly, Pintor Marin/Ruiz, Scutari, Singleton, Greenstein, Turner) – Authorizes HMFA to use certain tax credits; directs HMFA to conduct tax credit auctions to provide financial assistance for certain housing purposes

A4897/S3769 (Carter, Atkins, Reynolds-Jackson/Cryan, Amato) – Revises law requiring certain student identification cards to contain telephone number for suicide prevention hotline

A5170/S4027 (Pintor Marin, Speight/Cruz-Perez, Pou) – Requires State to purchase certain unused tax credits issued under New Jersey Economic Recovery Act of 2020

A5546/S4388 (Verrelli, Reynolds-Jackson/Turner) – Concerns financial powers and responsibilities of Capital City Redevelopment Corporation.

Posted on: July 22, 2025

Space Bill to Help Military Families with College Course Credit Signed into Law

Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed bipartisan legislation sponsored by Senator Parker Space (R-24) that would extend grade options to dependents of military service members.



“New Jersey is home to thousands of military families who are subject to unplanned obligations that can uproot their lives,” said Sen. Space. “Prior to this bill becoming law, only service members were granted the ability to decide the outcome of their grade if they were unable to finish a course. Now, with the governor’s signature, we’re extending that same courtesy to their dependents to ensure they receive the flexibility and support they deserve.”

Under the bill, if a student has completed at least 55 percent of the course, they may choose to receive a:

- 1. letter grade
- 2. pass or fail grade
- 3. grade of incomplete or,
- 4. withdrawal

If the student has completed fewer than 55 percent of the course, the options are limited to choosing between receiving an incomplete grade with faculty approval and withdrawing from the course.

You can [read the full bill, S-3052, online](#).