Marginal Fail Compensation

If you receive a grade within the range 35%-39% in a module, you may qualify for Marginal Fail Compensation. This applies to your results from this semester onwards.

Marginal Fail compensation means that a student who has failed to attain the pass mark (40%) in a module may pass the examined module by compensation. Compensation rules will be applied automatically where a student meets the criteria specified. The mark is noted with a ‘P’, example ‘36P’. The GPA is not altered.

Compensation can only be applied in the following circumstances:

1. The student has been assessed for all stage/semester modules and no module in the stage/semester has been failed outright (< 35%).
2. The results of all modules in the stage/semester are from first attempts.
3. In the case of full-time student, the results are from the same end of semester/stage examination/assessment session.
4. The stage/semester-aggregate of credit-weighted excesses of percentage marks (over 40) is greater than or equal to twice the stage/semester-aggregate of credit-weighted deficits of marks (under 40) and
5. The potentially compensatable results account for no more than one-third of the credit for the stage/semester: i.e., 20 credits in a 60-credit stage; 10 credits in a 30-credit semester; or 10 credits in a 25-credit semester. In a term or semester of less than 25 credits compensation does not apply.

Compensation applies only to enable a student to pass a stage/semester. At the award stage, a student who passes by compensation remains eligible for honours etc. Compensation does not change the result of the modules passed in that way. When reporting marginally failed module(s) passed by compensation (on the European Diploma Supplement), the actual result is returned, along with an indication that the module pass has been granted by compensation: • example 37P.

Here you will find several scenarios which you may use to help you understand how the Marginal Fail Compensations criteria might be applied to a student’s grades for Semester 2

# Scenario 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Module****1** | **Module****2** | **Module****3** | **Module****4** | **Module****5** | **Module****6** | **Academic Standing** |
| Credit Weighting | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 30 ECTS |
| Joseph Smyth | 82 | 65 | 76 | 35 | 42 | 59 | Exemptions Granted |
| Joseph Smyth Grades on Transcript of Results | 82 | 65 | 76 | 35P | 42 | 59 | **Pass** |

* The student is deficient by 5% in Module 4 and requires double this deficiency (10%) to receive marginal fail compensation.
* Module 4 is changed to 35P (pass by compensation) assuming there are no failed elements eg. insufficient attendance at practical classes. Surplus of 10% is available from the other modules.
* Academic standing is now Pass

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Module****1** | **Module****2** | **Module****3** | **Module****4** | **Module****5** | **Module****6** | **Academic Standing** |
| Credit Weighting | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 30 ECTS |
| Jane Bloggs | 40 | 40 | 40 | 46 | 42 | 35 | Exemptions Granted |

* The student is deficient by 5% in Module 6 and requires double this deficiency (10%) to receive marginal fail compensation.
* Compensation cannot happen as ‘double the difference’ marks are not available (10% over the other 5 passed modules are required).

# Scenario 3:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Module****1** | **Module****2** | **Module****3** | **Module****4** | **Module****5** | **Module****6** |  |
| Credit Weighting | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 30 ECTS |
| Sarah Setter | 32 | 56 | 55 | 52 | 45 | 65 | Exemptions granted |

* The student has not passed module 1.
* Compensation cannot happen as the module mark is below 35%.

# Scenario 4

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Module****1** | **Module****2** | **Module****3** | **Module****4** | **Module****5** | **Module****6** | **Academic Standing** |
| Credit Weighting | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 30 ECTS |
| Harry Hatter | 50 | 45 | 39 | 46 | 52 | 37 | Exemptions Granted |
| Harry Hatter Grades on Transcript of Results | 50 | 45 | **40** | 46 | 52 | **37P** | **Pass** |

* The student is deficient by 1% in Module 3 and by 3% in Module 6 and requires double this deficiency (6%) to receive marginal fail compensation.
* Module 3 is automatically raised to 40% as per regulations
* Module 6 is changed to 37P (pass by compensation) assuming there are no failed elements eg. insufficient attendance at practical classes. Surplus of 6% is available from the other modules.
* Academic standing is now Pass

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Module****1** | **Module****2** | **Module****3** | **Module****4** | **Module****5** | **Academic Standing** |
| Credit Weighting | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 10 | 30 ECTS |
| Harry Hatter | 50 | 45 | 40 | 46 | 37 | Exemptions Granted |
| Harry Hatter Grades on Transcript of Results | 50 | 45 | 40 | 46 | **37P** | **Pass** |

* The student is deficient by by 3% in Module 5 and requires double this deficiency (6%) to receive marginal fail compensation.
* This module is weighted at 10 credits therefore a surplus of 12% is required from the other 5 credit modules.
* Module 5 is changed to 37P (pass by compensation) A weighted surplus of 6% is available from the other modules
* Academic standing is now Pass