

Calculating Grade Point Average

It is essential that middle level students learn to calculate their grade point average (GPA). Once students learn this, they may keep an ongoing record to determine if they are improving and keeping on track toward their goal of college.

Remind students that grades from the end of the marking period appear on their permanent records. If they receive a poor grade on a progress report, they have time to work extra hard to improve that grade before the end of the marking period. GRADES = MONEY when it comes to college financial aid.

Combine learning to calculate a GPA with goal-setting. Give students the opportunity to set academic goals based on their current grades.

Into

Time: 1 class period

- Review the Philosophical Chairs section in *Strategies for Success*. Have students participate in the following Philosophical Chairs topic: “Students should receive pass/fail for each of their classes instead of a letter grade.”

Through

Time: Less than 1 class period

- Obtain grades from counselors, have students bring in their grades, or have students project what their grades will be for each of their classes.
- Walk students through Activity 1.7, “Calculating My GPA.”

Beyond

Time: Less than 1 class period

- After students compute their GPA’s, have them set their GPA goals using Activity 1.8, “GPA Goal-Setting.”
- Have students revisit the GPA calculation activity and the goal-setting activity after each grading period.



Calculating My GPA

Name: _____ Date: _____

STEP 1

Complete chart below by filling in the grades you earned:

CLASS	GRADE
English	
Math	
History	
Science	
AVID	
Physical Education	
Other:	

STEP 2

Count how many you have of each letter grade:

How many I have:	Letter Grade
	A
	B
	C
	D
	F

STEP 3

Multiply each grade you received with the value listed:

	How many I have:		Grade Points Earned
A		x4	
B		x3	
C		x2	
D		x1	
F		x0	

STEP 4

Add your grade points earned.

The answer will be your total number of grade points.

Total Grade Points

STEP 5

Divide the total grade points by the number of classes you have grades for.

TGP = Total Grade Point

NC=Number of Classes

STEP 6

My GPA is _____



Calculating My GPA (Example)

Name: _____ Date: _____

STEP 1

Complete chart below by filling in the grades you earned:

CLASS	GRADE
English	B
Math	C
History	A
Science	B
AVID	B
Physical Education	A
Other:	

STEP 2

Count how many you have of each letter grade:

How many I have:	Letter Grade
2	A
3	B
1	C
0	D
0	F

STEP 3

Multiply each grade you received with the value listed:

	How many I have:		Grade Points Earned
A	2	x4	= 8
B	3	x3	= 9
C	1	x2	= 2
D	0	x1	= 0
F	0	x0	= 0

STEP 4

Add your grade points earned.

The answer will be your total number of grade points.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 8 \\
 9 \\
 2 \\
 0 \\
 \hline
 +0 \\
 \hline
 19
 \end{array}$$

Total Grade Points

STEP 5

Divide the total grade points by the number of classes you have grades for.

$$\frac{\text{TGP}}{\text{NC}} = \text{GPA} \quad \frac{19}{6} = 3.17$$

STEP 6

My GPA is **3.17**



GPA Goal-Setting

Name: _____ Date: _____

Grading Period: _____ GPA on my progress report: _____ GPA on my report card: _____

My feelings about my grades: _____

My achievements so far this year: _____

My disappointments this year: _____

My GPA goals for the next two months: _____

My academic goals for the next two months (studying, time management, homework, specific class, notetaking, calendar, etc.): _____

My personal goals for the next two months to help achieve my GPA (attitude, TV, social issues, family, nutrition, etc.): _____

