

## CALCULATING GPA FOR IGCSE STUDENTS

GPA's are calculated by assigning a number to a grade for each subject, multiplying by the number of credits available for the course, adding the totals together and dividing by the number of credits available. However, the grading system in the USA is different from that used in the UK so it is first of all necessary to convert the grades to the US system and, as all IGCSEs are the same 'size', there is no need to multiply by the number of credits. Therefore to convert a student's IGCSE results to GPA's there are three basic steps involved:

### Step One

Convert grades to US system

### Step Two

Assign a number for each grade

### Step Three

Calculate the GPA by adding together the assigned numbers, and dividing the total number by the number of subjects.

### Step One

Passing grades for IGCSE exams range from A\* to G, with A\* being the highest. A suggested comparability of CIE examination grades and the US grades are shown on the table below.

CIE IGCSE Grade	Suggested US equivalent grade
A*, A	A
B	A-
C	B
D	C+
E	C
F	D+
G	D

Five passes at grade C or higher would indicate a student's readiness to begin freshman level courses in American universities. If a student passes seven IGCSE examinations with two being from the language group, one from each of the other four groups and one more from any of the five groups listed, then they will qualify for an International Certificate of Education (ICE) Diploma. This diploma equates to a US advanced academic or honors high school diploma. It is awarded at one of three levels – Distinction, Merit or Pass – depending upon the grades earned in the seven examinations.

### Step Two

There are a number of scales used to calculate GPA's in the USA but the most common scale is the 4.0 scale where A = 4.0 and F = 0. The following table shows how points are allocated using this scale with + and -.

US Letter Grade	Numerical Value
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0

D-	0.7
F	0.0

### Step Three

If a student had taken the following courses in the USA and achieved the following results their results would be calculated as shown in the table. For this example all courses are one credit although in the US these would most likely vary.

US Grade	Numerical value		Credit value		
A	4.0	x	1	=	4.0
B	3.0	x	1	=	3.0
B-	2.7	x	1	=	2.7
C	2	x	1	=	2
D+	1.3	x	1	=	1.3
F	0.0	x	1	=	0.0
Totals			6	=	13
Grade average: $13 \div 6 = 2.17$					

To calculate GPA for a student's IGCSE results we add the numerical results together and divide by the number of subjects rather than the credit value as can be seen in the examples below.

### Examples

#### Example One

IGCSE Grade	Converted US Grade	Numerical value
A*	A	4.0
A	A	4.0
B	A-	3.7
C	B	3.0
C	B	3.0
Total		17.7
<b>Grade average: <math>17.7 \div 5 = 3.54</math></b>		

#### Example Two

IGCSE Grade	Converted US Grade	Numerical value
D	C+	2.3
E	C	2.0
E	C	2.0
F	D+	1.3
G	D	1.0
Total		8.6
<b>Grade average: <math>8.6 \div 5 = 1.72</math></b>		

#### Example Three

IGCSE Grade	Converted US Grade	Numerical value
B	A-	3.7
B	A-	3.7
C	B	3.0
C	B	3.0

D	C+	2.3
D	C+	2.3
Total		18
<b>Grade average: <math>18 \div 6 = 3.00</math></b>		

#### Example Four

IGCSE Grade	Converted US Grade	Numerical value
A*	A	4.0
A	A	4.0
B	A-	3.7
B	A-	3.7
B	A-	3.7
C	B	3.0
C	B	3.0
Total		25.1
<b>Grade average: <math>25.1 \div 7 = 3.58</math></b>		

#### Example Five

IGCSE Grade	Converted US Grade	Numerical value
C	B	3.0
C	B	3.0
D	C+	2.3
D	C+	2.3
E	C	2.0
F	D+	1.3
G	D	1.0
Total		14.9
<b>Grade average: <math>14.9 \div 7 = 2.13</math></b>		

#### Template

Student name:		
IGCSE Grade	Converted US Grade	Numerical value
Total		
<b>Grade average: (Total) <math>\div</math> (No. subjects) = GPA</b>		

#### Further Information

Further information on how GPA is calculated in many different countries can be found at <http://www.answers.com/topic/grade-education>