

Florida Polytechnic University S/U Grade Option FAQ

Why Is Florida Polytechnic University offering S/U grading options?

- In an attempt to help students continue to progress towards their degree and future career aspirations in a timely manner, the Florida Polytechnic University Administration and Faculty have approved a change in the current Grading and Withdrawal Policies for Spring 2020 courses.

Is my course eligible for the S/U grading option?

- Not all courses are eligible for S/U Grading. Graduate Courses, unless already designated as such (e.g. Thesis, Project, or Research hours) and all Senior “Capstone” courses have been deemed ineligible for S/U grading.

What letter grades are eligible for an S option? What Letter grades are eligible U option?

- For courses that allow the S-grade, you must have a C or higher.
- For courses that allow the U-grade, you must have a C- or below.

Am I required to take the S/U option?

- No, for instance if you have an A in the class, it would not be in your best interest to take an S grade for that class. If you have 3 A's and 1 C then you could opt to take an S grade for the C grade so your GPA would not go down.
- If you earn a D- or better, take the grade to progress, unless the course you are in is a pre-requisite where you must earn a C or better for future courses.
- If you earn an F, it would be better to take the “W” and have the “W” on your transcript and retake the class rather than a “U.” (See note below for Bright Futures.)

When do I choose a class or classes for an S grade?

- We recommend that you start planning now, but do not submit your form yet as your decision is final. This allows you to fully understand how it will impact your financial aid and your progression towards degree completion. Planning now allows you to make a quick decision when the semester ends.

How do I choose a class or classes for the S-U grade option?

Fill out the SP 2020 S/U Grade Option Request form and return it to the registrar's office.

<https://floridapoly.edu/about/divisions-and-departments/registrar/forms/>.

Is the S/U option going to be available after the Spring 2020 semester?

- No, this is a temporary change to the University's grading policy and will only be available through the Spring 2020 semester.

How will S/U grading affect me if I am on academic probation?

- If you are trying to raise your GPA to achieve academic good standing, S grades will not increase your GPA. The University has determined that students who select S grades for the Spring 2020 will maintain their current level for academic standing for the next term. For example: if you are on probation currently and you need to raise your cumulative GPA to above a 2.0 to remove probation, selecting S grades will not change your academic standing. You will remain on probation.
- Overall, academic standing will not be negatively impacted this term. If a student's GPA increases, their academic standing may be reflected as such. If it goes down, for whatever reason, their standing will remain the same. If they are currently on probation and it does not change, the student will remain on probation.

What are the renewal requirements for Bright Futures and how does S/U and W affect these requirements?

The renewal requirement for Bright Futures Academic Scholars is a 3.0 cumulative GPA and Bright Futures Medallion is a 2.75 cumulative GPA. Bright Futures also requires students who are funded on full time enrollment to successfully earn at least 24 credit hours between fall and spring (see chart below from [BF Handbook](#)). The Office of Financial Aid reports the GPA and hours earned for each recipient at the end of every spring.

- S grade = does not require repayment of Bright Futures, is not calculated into GPA, and will count toward earned hours
- U grade = does not require repayment of Bright Futures, is not calculated into GPA, but will not count toward earned hours
- W grade = requires repayment of Bright Futures based on # of credits withdrawn and is not calculated into GPA. Because the credits are repaid, these hours no longer count as hours funded. The hours are placed back into the student's total remaining eligibility (for future use if the student remains eligible for renewal)

Annual Bright Futures Credit Hour Renewal Requirement by Term Course Load

Term 1 Hours Funded	Term 2 Hours Funded	Annual Earned Hours Requirement
Full-Time (12 or more)	Full-Time	12 + 12 = 24
	Three-Quarter Time	12 + 9 = 21
	Half-Time	12 + 6 = 18
Three-Quarter Time (9-11)	Full-Time	9 + 12 = 21
	Three-Quarter Time	9 + 9 = 18
	Half-Time	9 + 6 = 15
Half-Time (6-8)	Full-Time	6 + 12 = 18
	Three-Quarter Time	6 + 9 = 15
	Half-Time	6 + 6 = 12

(For example: A student who is funded full-time in Term 1 and funded three-quarter time in Term 2 is required to earn a minimum of 21 credit hours by the conclusion of the spring term.)

If you have specific questions about your Bright Futures, you should reach out to the financial aid office directly. financialaid@floridapoly.edu

How will taking an S/U option affect my scholarship status?

- Every scholarship is different, and some have different requirements regarding GPA and credits completed per semester or academic year. You are required to understand your scholarship requirements. Remember that taking an S grade will give you the course credit, but not factor into your GPA. Also, a U grade will not factor into your GPA and it will not count as completed credit. Consider this scenario you are taking 12 credits and have a D- in one course, if you decide to take a U grade in a 3-credit course you will have only completed 9 credit hours for the semester. Scholarships like Bright Futures require students who are funded on full time enrollment to successfully earn at least 24 credit hours between fall and spring . If you have specific questions about your scholarships, you should reach out to the financial aid office directly. financialaid@floridapoly.edu

Will I have to repay Federal Aid if I withdrawal from my courses?

- No federal aid refund calculation will be needed unless you withdraw from all of your courses (officially or unofficially).

Does it look bad having an S on your transcript?

- Don't feel like you shouldn't use the S-option or late withdrawal option. You need to do what is best for you. You have until May 8, 2020 to make a decision about late withdrawal and S/U grading. This will give you the time to make the best decision given your circumstances. However, view these options as a safety net for you and continue to try your hardest. There is a lot of support and programs offered by the University to help you succeed before getting to the S/U option. Reach out to the Academic Success Center for more information on these programs.

What form do I fill out to utilize the late withdrawal option?

- Fill out the SP 2020 Late Course Withdrawal Request form and return it to the registrar's office. <https://floridapoly.edu/about/divisions-and-departments/registrar/forms/>

Can I use the late withdrawal option for one course?

- Yes, you can withdraw from one, multiple, or all courses and combine it with the S/U grading option.

What will go on my transcript if I opt for the late withdraw from any or all my courses due to COVID-19?

- These withdrawals will be coded as "W" and the notation below the semester on the transcript will read: "Extraordinary circumstances encountered (COVID-19)"