

Downstream affects of adding optional S Grades to classes that are traditionally graded

Issue	Narrative
Admissions to selective programs	How will S grades be considered for selective programs such as clinicals and Kelley?
Athletic Certifications	Will athletes be negatively affected or deemed ineligible due to S grades
Equity issues	Why should one student receive a C and another receive a S? C grades may be interpreted as lower grades when compared to S.
Exceptions to Extended X Policy	Will students be able to retake classes with grades of S for a letter grade?
Interpretation	Is a grade of S defined as C or higher, D- or higher, other?
Lack of guidance as to when to apply S grades	Should S grades be applied at the student's request? Example, student is earning a B+, but wants to maintain a 4.0 or higher cumulative GPA?
Prerequisites	Will S grades satisfy established prerequisites? How do we ensure students receiving "lower" S grades are prepared for the next class?
Satisfying degree requirements	Degree requirement states B and student received a S
Students receiving VA/DOD educational benefits	<p>On your list of unintended consequences - most GI Bill and DOD programs, any grade that doesn't factor into the GPA is a "non-punitive" grade. The VA/DOD will not pay for non-punitive grades so those students would owe back that portion of the GI Bill money and the university would owe back their tuition for that portion.</p> <p>There is a system for getting a one-time exception up to 6-credit hours for this but some students may have already used it (typically for a withdrawal previously) or may need it in the future.</p>
Transferability	Will students be able to transfer classes with grades of S to other institutions? Will IU accept courses with S grades if not defined as a C or higher in a transcript note?
Students receiving educational benefits through 3rd Party Contracts	Some 3PCs require letter grades before reimbursement