

## SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Policy Number: 5.7	
Policy Title: Academic Recovery Alternate Grading Policy	
Original Date: April 23, 2020	Revision Date: April 23, 2020
Responsible Office: Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost	Administrative Division: Academic Affairs

**THE LANGUAGE USED IN THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT CREATE AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN THE EMPLOYEE AND THE AGENCY. THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT CREATE ANY CONTRACTUAL RIGHTS OR ENTITLEMENTS. THE AGENCY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVISE THE CONTENT OF THIS DOCUMENT, IN WHOLE OR IN PART. NO PROMISES OR ASSURANCES, WHETHER WRITTEN OR ORAL, WHICH ARE CONTRARY TO OR INCONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF THIS PARAGRAPH CREATE ANY CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT.**

### **PURPOSE**

The South Carolina State University Academic Recovery Alternate Grading Policy can be invoked by the Provost to facilitate students' academic recovery due to local, state, or national emergencies, natural disasters, or epidemics that may lead the University to engage in remote learning for an extended period of time during an impacted semester, hereinafter called the Academic Recovery Semester. This policy allows students an alternate grading opportunity during the Academic Recovery Semester.

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The South Carolina State University Academic Recovery Alternate Grading Policy can be invoked by the Provost to facilitate students' academic recovery due to local, state, or national emergencies, natural disasters, or epidemics that may lead the University to engage in remote learning for an extended period of time during an impacted semester hereinafter called the Academic Recovery Semester. This policy allows students an alternate grading opportunity during the Academic Recovery Semester.

While not necessary, students are strongly encouraged to confer with their academic advisors, department chairpersons, deans, athletic director, and financial aid counselors, etc. before taking advantage of the alternate grading opportunity. This is particularly relevant to students who need to retain standard letter grades such as the following:

- Students who are planning to attend graduate or professional schools.
- Student-athletes.

- Students in licensure programs such as Speech Pathology, Social Work, Rehabilitation Counseling, and Education programs.
  - Students who receive Federal Financial Aid.
  - Students on Academic Probation.
  - Students on “Satisfactory Academic Progress” (SAP) status.
  - Students on Financial Aid Probation.
  - Students in the Honors College.
  - Veterans and Dependents of Veterans.
  - Students who hold South Carolina scholarships (Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, or SC HOPE) and other scholarship awards with specific GPA, attempted hours, and earned hours criteria.
  - Students who have applied for graduation to participate in the commencement ceremony during the Academic Recovery Semester.
  - Students who have other special circumstances.
1. All courses will be graded with standard “A” to “F” letter grades by instructors. The earned grade will be applied. Faculty will submit grades by the required dates on the academic calendar including the early submission dates for graduating seniors.
  2. During a three-day period set by the Provost, students may opt to select an alternate “HS” or “HU” grade instead of the standard letter grades.
    - a. The “HS” grade is a satisfactory grade equivalent to “A” to “C” grades and does not impact the GPA. Credits associated with the “HS” grade count towards attempted and earned hours.
    - b. The “HU” grade is an unsatisfactory grade equivalent to “D” to “F” grades, including “WF” grades, and does not impact the GPA. Credits associated with the “HU” grade count toward attempted hours only but not earned hours.
  3. Students can select an alternate grade for one or for all courses attempted during the Academic Recovery Semester, including those courses for which they received “WF” grades but not “WP” and Incomplete grades. Students should think carefully before selecting the “HS” grade because the standard “A” to “C” grades are already passing grades and will most likely have a positive impact on the GPA.
  4. Students cannot rescind their decisions once they select the alternate grade for a course; the decision is permanent. The Grade Appeal Policy cannot be invoked for “HS” and “HU” grades selected by students.
  5. Students whose graduation date is within the Academic Recovery Semester are advised not to select “HU” grades for courses that are required for degree completion since credits for those courses will **not** be counted as earned hours.
  6. Students who receive the standard “D” letter grade for courses, should think very carefully before selecting the alternate “HU” grade for those courses because in certain cases, such as for some General Education Curriculum courses and free electives courses

outside the student's major curriculum, a "D" grade satisfies degree completion requirements.

7. A note will be placed on the transcripts of all students who enrolled in courses during the Academic Recovery Semester to indicate the emergency that created the situation which challenged all students to adapt quickly to remote learning.

### APPROVAL

<i>Rodney C. Jenkins, SCSU Board Chair</i>	4/23/2020
_____ President or Chairperson of the Board of Trustees	_____ Date
Rodney C. Jenkins, SCSU Board Chair	
_____ Print Name	