

option is most likely the best idea. First consider your current cumulative GPA when making this decision. For example,

If your current cumulative GPA is above a 3.0, any grade lower than a B could have the potential of lowering your GPA.

If your current cumulative GPA is between a 2.0 and a 3.0, any grade of a B- or lower could have the potential of lowering your GPA.

We encourage you to consult with your instructors and/or advisers when making these decisions.

For grades of D, if you want to simply earn the credits for the course, then choosing the S/U option is not helpful. If you will need to retake the class anyway, it might be helpful to take the S/U option to help your GPA. In advance of receiving your grades, you should have a discussion with your advisor if earning a D grade is a distinct possibility.

14. I plan to go to graduate school, medical school, or law school, is S/U a good option?

This can be a difficult question to answer, as it may vary greatly depending on the specific program you are looking to apply to. If you know what graduate programs you are hoping to apply to, you are encouraged to reach out to the contact point for that particular program to discuss any impacts that this may have on your graduate application. The best course of action is to consult the academic advisor in your major, a faculty mentor, or contact your college advising office.

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affect your status. If you do not yet qualify for graduation with honors, S/U grades won't help you improve your GPA.

22. My tuition is paid by my employer, or a third party payer, can I take the S/U option?

You should contact your employer or your third party payer to make sure they will pay for the course if you opt for S/U grading.

23. How does S/U work when I am repeating a course I previously failed or did poorly in?

A grade of S will replace the previous grade if you earn a grade of C or better for the class and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly (although the change to your GPA will only result from the removal of the old class from GPA consideration; the S grade itself does not impact your GPA). If you earn a U, then the GPA will stay the same and you will need to repeat the class again.

24. Will taking the S/U option negatively impact my federal financial aid?

No. The federal government assesses students to assure they are making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). SAP depends on having a GPA above 2.0 and passing 67% of the classes enrolled in spring semester.

Do grades of S count as passing for SAP? How will the 67% completion ratio for Spring 2021 be calculated?

Yes, grades of S will count as completing a course successfully. As long as you earn a grade of S in 67% of your classes, your aid will continue.

My Fall 2020 cumulative GPA is not a 2.0, but I earned all S grades for Spring 2021, what will happen?

You will continue to receive financial aid. The Fall 2020 cumulative GPA will come forward, we will know you passed all your classes and you will continue to receive financial aid.

I am new to CSU for Spring 2021, I am taking all my classes with the S/U option, how will my GPA be calculated?

You will continue to receive aid as long as you earn a grade of S in 67% of your classes. Your GPA will be calculated as a 0.00.

25. Will taking the S/U option negatively impact a CSU awarded scholarship?

No. Choosing the S/U option will not impact negatively any renewable scholarship through Cleveland State University.