

Incomplete Policy

"I", incomplete, is assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, in the faculty member's judgment, a student is faced with a significant disruption in his or her ability to complete some portion of the assigned work in a course. The grade of "I" cannot be used to give students additional time to complete course assignments unless there is strong, clear evidence that stated conditions or events prevented the student from submitting course assignments when they were due. The faculty member must transmit the prescribed online "Incomplete Justification form" as part of grade submission. The student can access this information on VIP.

By arrangement with the instructor and according to the conditions on the required form entered by the instructor, the student may have from one week up to 12 months from the date the "I" was given—in no case can this be longer than 12 months—to complete and submit the work. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure all arrangements for removal of the "Incomplete" have been made and that all work to rectify the "Incomplete" has been accomplished.

If the instructor of records is no longer at USC Upstate, the student should, within the time specified on the incomplete grade form, transmit copies of all necessary materials to that instructor by certified return receipt mail. If the instructor fails to assign a grade within three months of the date of the request, or if no forwarding address is available, the dean of the appropriate school or chair of the appropriate department/division shall appoint a faculty member to consider the request and assign a grade. When all required work has been completed and received, the instructor may initiate the appropriate "Make-up Grade for Incomplete" form and file it with the Records Office. If the student does not complete the necessary work by the agreed upon and stated deadline, the faculty member can submit a permanent grade change at that time. Automatically at the one year limit, the "I" will convert to an "F" or to a back-up grade if so designated by the instructor. The changing of an "I" to a letter grade requires notification and processing at various administrative levels. It may take several weeks before the latter grade and credits earned appear on the student's transcript, and in some cases, may delay approval for graduation. The grade of "I" does not affect the computation of GPA until a permanent grade is assigned.