

IUPUI Grade Replacement Policy

Scope

Undergraduate students seeking their first baccalaureate degree.

Policy clarification: "first undergraduate degree" to "first baccalaureate degree" approved by the Academic Affairs Committee, IUPUI Faculty Council, October 14, 2015, effective fall 2015.

Policy Statement

Explanation of Policy:

The IUPUI-Grade Replacement Policy (formerly known as the FX policy) ~~was revised effective with the fall 1996 semester. The new policy will~~ allows approved undergraduate students [enrolled at IUPUI, IUPUC, or IU Fort Wayne](#) and seeking their first baccalaureate degree to repeat a maximum of 15 credit hours subject to school/division approval. If a student chooses to repeat a course and achieves the same or higher grade, only [that grade earned on retake](#) will be counted in the ~~cumulative~~ GPA [and the credit hours from the original course shall not be counted.](#)

Certain restrictions apply [so students should consult their academic school/division prior to invoking grade replacement.](#) ~~and the grade replacement policy may not be honored by some IUPUI schools when considering admission to the school or in computing graduation honors. Please contact your school/division for more information on the grade replacement policy and to determine if this option is available to you.~~

It is the student's responsibility to notify the school ~~reorder~~ that the course has been taken a second time and that the student wishes to exercise this option for the first grade [prior to graduation](#). Replacement does not happen automatically.

This policy is not available for graduate students or students seeking any second undergraduate baccalaureate degree.

Purpose of the Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to allow students who have done poorly in a course to repeat the course and remove the weight of the earlier grade from the student's ~~cumulative~~ grade point average. ~~The committee sees this policy as an expansion of the current policy by extending the replacement option to courses in which students receive any grade rather than just grades of F.~~

Reason for Policy

Grade replacement is seen as a reasonable option for a student who, new to higher education, had a less-than-optimal start and is trying to get a second chance. This is why the new policy is limited to undergraduate students seeking their first baccalaureate degree. ~~Schools retain the right to consider the student's complete academic record for purposes of admission to the school, granting of honors, or in meeting the minimum GPA required for conferral of the degree.~~

Procedures

1. ~~The effective date is the beginning of the fall 1996 semester. Any course being used to replace an earlier taking of the course must be taken in the fall of 1996 or later.~~
2. The provisions apply to students pursuing **their first** an undergraduate **baccalaureate** degree only.
3. A student may exercise the grade replacement policy for a maximum of 15 credit hours.¹ The 15-credit hour limit includes any course previously replaced under historical FX or grade replacement policy.
4. ~~Grade replacement replaces use of the FX option. Grades previously granted FX will be honored subject to #3 above.~~
5. A student may exercise the grade replacement policy no more than two times for a single course. Each attempted replacement will count towards the 15-credit limit.
6. Grade replacement is available only for courses taken at Indiana University. Once invoked, a student may not subsequently request reversal of the grade replacement granted to a particular course.
7. **Students who re-enroll in a course must initiate a request for grade replacement with their academic unit prior to graduation. Replacement does not happen automatically. Consent of the principal administrator of the student's degree-granting unit is required.**
8. Any grade may be replaced. ~~The replaced grade will then be excluded from the cumulative grade point average. However, the course listing and the replaced grade will remain on the student's academic record with an "X" denoting that the grade is excluded from the cumulative grade point average.~~ **The repeated course grade must be the same as or higher than the previous attempt at the course. A student must receive a letter grade upon retake in order to change the previous grade to an "X." The previous grade remains on the transcript if the student receives a "W," "I," "R", or "NC" in the retaken course.**
9. **Only the grade earned on retake shall be counted toward grade point average. The credit hours from the replaced course shall not be counted.**
10. **Grade replacement will appear on the official student transcript as follows:**

Replacement applied to fall 2021 courses and beyond: the replaced grade shall be changed to an "X". The original grade shall not appear on the transcript but may be retained as an internal grade by the student's unit and the campus registrar.

Replacement applied to courses between 1996 – summer 2021: the replaced grade remains on the student's academic record with an "X" placed next to the original grade denoting that the grade is excluded from the grade point average.

¹ Due to the circumstances surrounding the COVID pandemic, courses in the spring 2020 term are exempt from the 15-credit hour grade replacement maximum. This applies to courses taken in spring 2020 to replace prior term courses as well as courses taken in future terms used to replace courses completed in spring 2020.

Replacement of courses prior to 1996: only grades of F could be replaced and were denoted with an "FX".

11. Students shall be allowed to replace the grade in any course unless the faculty of a unit decides that it will not allow its students to replace grades in courses required for a major, minor, certificate, honors program, or other recognition by the unit.
12. The course that the student retakes should be the same course as the previous one, but need not be offered by the same instructor. Account should be taken of the fact that course numbers and titles are occasionally changed. The principal administrator of the unit offering the original course shall determine whether there is course equivalency.
13. Invocation of the [Fresh Start through Academic Renewal](#) forgiveness option does not preclude a student from using grade replacement for work taken subsequent to [after](#) re-enrollment as defined by the ~~Forgiveness~~ [Fresh Start](#) Policy.
14. The grade replacement option may not be exercised if the original grade was assigned as a result of the student's academic misconduct.

~~Grade replacement is available only for courses taken at Indiana University. Schools retain the right to consider records of performance from other universities in determining admission to the school, granting of honors, etc. [Note: This assumes that if the student's initial course was taken on another IU campus, that campus is willing to place the replacement flag on the course at our request.]~~

History

IFC Academic Affairs Committee 11/1995

Approved by the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee with the stipulation that academic units will interpret as appropriate for their unit or not implement if it is not applicable and in concert with their requirements. February 8, 1996

IUPUI Faculty Council 12/1996

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Revisions to align with updated university policy on [Grades & Grading \(ACA-66\)](#) – Approved by the IFC Academic Affairs Committee, March 28, 2022