

An Advisor's Guide to Add/Drop Dates

Fall Semester 2026–27 · Based on the [academic calendar](#)

KEY DATES AT A GLANCE

Fri, Sept 4 · 4:30 pm

Add Deadline — new first-year students only

Thu, Sept 10 · 4:30 pm

Add/Drop Deadline — all students; 12-credit full-time count date

Thu, Oct 15 · 4:30 pm

Drop/Reuse Date — credits can still be reused this academic year

Fri, Nov 6 · 4:30 pm

Final Drop Date — last day to drop a 14-week course

Add/Drop Registration Deadlines

Continuing & New Transfer Students

Add/Drop Deadline: Thursday, September 10, 4:30 pm

- All schedule changes should be finalized by this date.

New First-Year Students

Add Deadline: Friday, September 4, 4:30 pm

Drop Deadline: Thursday, September 10, 4:30 pm

- First-week add/drop needs an advisor-approved Restricted Note in Arches by Sept 4, plus Student Success & Advising Services approval.
- To add: course **must have open seats**. To drop: student must remain at 12+ credits.
- FY fall sport athletes at 16 credits cannot add a 1-credit HEPE course — unless taking only 12 credits in spring and not a MAP Grant recipient.
- No adds allowed after Sept 4, 4:30 pm. Drops remain open via Arches through Sept 10 — advisor consultation strongly recommended.

All Students — Important

Students must be enrolled in at least **12 credits** by 4:30 pm on Sept 10 for full-time status. Registered courses at the end of day nine count as attempted credits for [Financial Aid Satisfactory Progress](#).

Classes dropped after Sept 10 receive a **W** on the transcript (no GPA impact, but counted as attempted credits for Financial Aid). Questions → financialaid@augustana.edu

Drop/Reuse Date

Oct 15 · 4:30 pm

Dropping a class may be appropriate in limited circumstances. A student must submit the [online drop form](#) with instructor and advisor approval — and should not do so without consulting both first.

TALK WITH YOUR ADVISEE ABOUT

- Whether they've stopped attending, or are failing and unlikely to recover — ask them to name the specific steps they'd take to improve their grade before dropping.
- Whether extra help (instructor office hours, tutoring, reading/writing support) could still make passing possible — there's a later drop opportunity once they know more.
- What dropping means for credits completed this year, a course sequence, or a particular major.
- One or two W's are rarely a problem; repeated W's are not advisable and may affect graduation timeline.

WHAT DROPPING BY THIS DATE MEANS

- The course appears on the transcript as a **W** — no GPA effect.
- Credits **do not** count against the 34 credit-hour maximum covered by yearly tuition (36 credit-hours for new Fall 2026 first-year students) — they can be **reused** later this academic year.
- May drop the student below full-time status — **see Caution Box below**
- Students can consider adding a late-start course to recover credits — but those who are struggling should be cautious about taking one on.

Final Drop Date

Nov 6 · 4:30 pm

Friday of week ten — the last date to drop a 14-week course this semester.

Same process as above: [online drop form](#) with instructor and advisor approval required. Most students failing a course (including FYI/HONR-101) with no realistic path to pass should drop by this date. **See Caution Box below for exceptions.** Students failing multiple courses should be referred to Student Success & Advising Services.

TALK WITH YOUR ADVISEE ABOUT

- A realistic expectation of the grade they can still earn — check Starfish flags from the Academic Concern Report. With three weeks left, many students need coaching on what's actually achievable.

WHAT DROPPING BY THIS DATE MEANS

- The course appears on the transcript as a **W** — no GPA effect.
- Unlike the October date, these credits **do count** against the 34/36 credit-hour maximum and **cannot be reused**.

CAUTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE DROPPING A COURSE

- **International students** generally must stay at 12+ credits for visa status at all times (check "12 CR Req for Visa" on the [Starfish Overview](#) tab). New FY international students or those with health circumstances may discuss a [Reduced Course Load](#) with OISSS. Also consider [DHS Fixed Time Period of Admission](#) and 4-year graduation impact.
- **Student athletes** must stay at 12+ credits to remain eligible this term, and must pass 12 credits this term to be eligible next term, alongside a [minimum GPA requirement](#).
- **Federal Loan Recipients (new for 26–27):** Federal loans are now tied to completing 24 credits for the year — anything less prorates the award, and the shortfall lands on the student as an unpaid balance since the bill stays the same. A dropped course counts against that total, so this is worth raising with advisees before they withdraw, particularly if they're already near the 24-credit line.
- **Students on [Financial Aid Warning or Probation](#)** should consult the Office of Advising or Financial Aid first (see the [Starfish Overview](#) tab for standing).
- May drop the student below full-time and below the 67% completion rate required for [Financial Aid Satisfactory Progress](#) — they can recover completion percentage the following term, but several consecutive terms below 67% risks lost aid.