

# 2022 Grades and the Strike F.A.Q. (for undergrads)

See also this [FAQ](#) from Undergrad Advising

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**Q: What is happening with the strike now that we are approaching the end of the quarter.**

Unless the UC and our union come to an agreement, we will continue on strike through final exams and the deadline for turning in grades. This means that there is a high likelihood that you will temporarily not have a grade listed.

**Q: How will this affect final exams?**

A: TAs who are on strike will not be proctoring or grading final exams. Your instructor may still give you a final.

**Q: Do I still need to take my final exams?**

A: Yes, you should still take any final exams assigned to you. They will at some point be graded. We are not asking students to strike their education in solidarity with us. You might consider passing on information to your instructor about their rights (see [here](#) and [here](#)).

**Q: When will I get my grades?**

A: TAs will resume work as soon as the strike ends, which will only come from an agreement between us as the union and the university. This means that we will not begin grading until after this agreement happens. How long that takes, and what kind of grading we do, will depend on what kind of agreement is reached with the UC and when.

**Q: Will grades not being turned in hurt my GPA?**

A: No. Grades will be left blank during the strike, which is **not** the same thing as receiving an incomplete or non-passing grade. Grades will be submitted after the strike ends, and your blank grades will be updated to reflect the grades you earned.

**Q: Will missing grades affect my financial aid?**

A: For the vast majority of students, the answer is no. The only students whose financial aid may be affected will be contacted by the financial aid office, according to a statement from [Undergraduate Advising](#). This is a small percentage of students, and it is probably linked to making “minimum progress” while on academic probation. If you are one of those students, please contact your financial aid advisor. Your TA can submit your grade to ensure that your financial aid will not be affected by the strike, however, this will not happen until closer to January deadlines for financial aid. Your TA or GSI cannot ask you whether you are on academic probation; you will need to reach out to your TA or GSI.

In the unlikely event that a student’s financial aid is delayed due to the strike, those who live on campus and have a meal plan will be able to maintain their housing and meal plan even if their aid is delayed. For those who live off campus and rely on their financial aid to pay rent, the financial aid office has an emergency advance program that these students can draw from to pay their bills – in addition to slug support. More information on this program is available here:

<https://financialaid.ucsc.edu/types-of-aid/loans/ucsc-financial-aid-emergency-advance-program.html>

**Q: I'm taking a class that I need as a prerequisite for a class next quarter. Will I be dropped from the class next quarter due to a missing grade?**

A: No. According to the Registrar's Office, students are only dropped from sequential classes when a failing or incomplete grade is entered in a prerequisite class. Withheld grades are not entered as incomplete, they are simply left blank. You will not be dropped from any classes to due a withheld grade in a prerequisite class.

**Q: Will this affect time to graduation?**

A: No. Your grades will be left blank for now, but they will be updated when the strike ends. The official processing of your graduation may be delayed until the grades are entered, but will be processed once the grades are received. Your graduation date will still be recorded as Fall 2022. No action is required on your part. If you think you need your graduation to be officially processed sooner, let your TA know, but you probably do not need that.

Nothing about this will stop you from walking in the graduation ceremony and celebrating your hard-earned degree.

**Q: I need my transcripts this month because I'm applying to grad school. What do I do?**

A: You will still have access to your transcripts. Even if they were turned in as normal, these grades **do not appear** on your transcripts (you will see something like "currently taking"). You are turning in unofficial transcripts right now and you will turn in official transcripts once you accept your offer from graduate school at a much later date.

Follow up with your TA in Winter 2023 if we are still on strike and you are applying to grad school with a deadline after December 14th.

**Q: I am in the US on an F1 visa. Will a missing grade impact my visa status?**

A: No. Missing grades and I (Incomplete) grades will not impact your visa status. Please contact your International Student Advisor with any additional questions.

**Q: If the university doesn't budge, will everyone get an incomplete on their transcripts for this quarter?**

A: No. According to the university's response to the 2019 strike: "Incomplete grades should only be assigned by the instructor of record when requested by the student, and when the student

*This document will continue to be updated.*

has completed work of passing quality, but the student's work is not yet complete." Your grades will simply remain blank and will not be an incomplete.

**Q: Will Student Athletes become ineligible to participate on athletic teams as a result of grades being withheld during the strike?**

A: No, the Athletics department was advised by legal counsel during the 2019-2020 strike that this will not affect eligibility of student athletes.

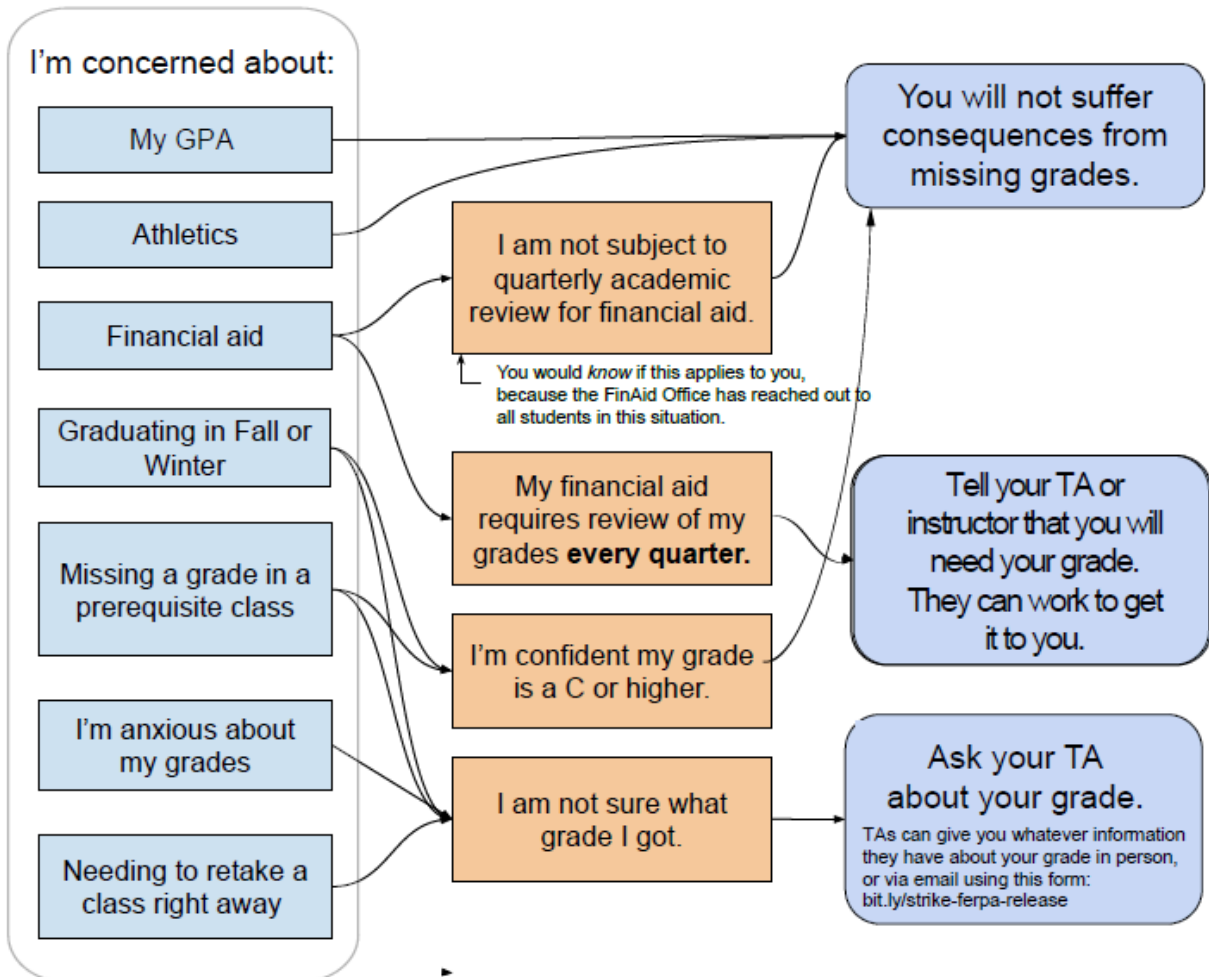
**Q: What's a quick and easy way to determine if I need my TA to submit my grade?**

A: Consider this handy flowchart!

# Do I need my TA to submit my grade?

December 5, 2022

Graduate students are asking undergraduates for their continued support as the strike extends into through final exams and towards grade submission deadlines due to the UC's refusal to offer us an adequate contract. TAs are willing to submit individual grades for students who urgently need them. This chart is to help you decide whether your need is urgent.



Here is a link for the [FERPA waiver](#)

## Q: Why are graduate students striking?

A: Graduate students are striking because they do not get paid enough to live in Santa Cruz. Many UCSC graduate students are paying over 50% of their wages on rooms in shared houses

and do not have enough money left over to pay for food and medical care. Others commute over an hour to work. Others live in their cars. Our living conditions affect our ability to teach and mentor our students effectively, degrading the quality of education at UCSC.

**Q: What is a Cost of Living Adjustment, or COLA?**

A: A cost of living adjustment (COLA) is a pay increase tied to the cost of living. For us we are demanding our pay keep pace with the quickly increasing cost of rent. It is fundamentally a demand that we be able to afford to live in the place where we work.

**Q: What is rent burden?**

A: Rent burden is paying 30% of your wages in rent. “Extreme rent burden” is paying 50% of your wages in rent. 90% of TAs suffer rent burden across the UC, and most of your TAs at UCSC suffer extreme rent burden.

**Q: How can I support graduate students?**

A: First, come out to the picket line with us! Second, email your professor and let them know you support graduate student strikers and that you are willing to forgo a grade until the conclusion of the strike. Third, spread the word! Talk to your classmates and friends! We need everyone!

**Q: How can I get more information about the strike?**

A: The campaign has an extensive online presence:

Instagram.com/PayUsMoreUCSC

PayUsMoreUCSC.com

<https://twitter.com/payusmoreucsc>