

FOR APPROVAL

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: UTSC Academic Affairs Committee

SPONSOR: Prof. Karin Ruhlandt, Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean
CONTACT INFO: vpdean.utsc@utoronto.ca

PRESENTER: Shelby Verboven, Registrar & Assistant Dean Strategic Enrolment Management
CONTACT INFO: shelby.verboven@utoronto.ca

DATE: April 22, 2026 for April 29, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 5

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposed Changes to Academic Regulation, UTSC: Dean's List Assessment

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The University of Toronto Scarborough Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) "is concerned with matters affecting the teaching, learning and research functions of the Campus (*AAC Terms of Reference*, 2022, section 4)." Under section 5.6 of its *Terms of Reference*, the Committee is responsible for approval of "Minor amendments to Campus academic regulations that are consistent with University-wide policy."

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. UTSC Academic Affairs Committee [For Approval] (April 29, 2026)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

No previous action in governance has been taken on this item.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The proposed amendment to the Dean's List regulation aims at aligning the assessment and recognition of student academic excellence across the three U of T Arts & Science divisions.

Since the 2015–16 academic year, student academic excellence has been recognized through the Dean's List. This designation is currently assessed once per year, at the end of the summer session (the end of the academic year), and recognizes students who have achieved a cumulative grade point average (cGPA) of at least 3.50 and completed a minimum of 1.5 credits in any of the preceding Fall,

Winter or Summer terms However, the current regulation does not include a requirement related to the total number of credits completed during this period.

Under the proposed amendment, the Dean's List designation will be granted to U of T Scarborough students who achieve a cumulative grade point average (cGPA) of 3.50 or higher at the end of the session in which they complete their fifth, tenth, fifteenth, and twentieth U of T credits. In addition, students completing a Double Degree Program will have an additional assessment at the end of the session in which their twenty-fifth credit is completed.

The proposed amendment will align U of T Scarborough's Dean's List regulation with approaches used across other U of T Arts & Science divisions, ensuring greater consistency in the assessment and recognition of strong academic achievement. It will also enhance transparency for students by providing clearer expectations regarding when Dean's List notations will appear on their transcripts.

In developing this proposal, the Office of the Registrar consulted with the Scarborough Campus Students' Union, the U of T Scarborough Academic Advisor Community of Practice, the Chairs of academic departments, and Registrar's Offices in the Faculty of Arts & Science, the University of Toronto Mississauga, and the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no significant financial implications to the campus operating budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Resolved:

THAT the proposed academic regulation changes concerning Dean's List assessment, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective September 1, 2026.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

1. Proposal – Changes to UTSC Academic Regulations - UTSC Academic Calendar, Dean's List Assessment (April 1, 2026)

2025-26 Curriculum Cycle

Changes to UTSC Academic Regulations

Proposed Change	UTSC Academic Calendar, Dean's List Assessment
Division	University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC)
Proponents	Office of the Registrar, University of Toronto Scarborough
Contact	Registrar's Office: Shelby Verboven, Registrar and Assistant Dean, Strategic Enrolment Management (shelby.verboven@utoronto.ca)
Version Date	April 1, 2026
Effective Date	September 1, 2026

Governance Route

1. UTSC Academic Affairs Committee [For Approval] (April 29, 2026)

Summary

This is a proposal to amend the academic regulations as they are described in the [Policies & Practices > Grades and Academic Records > Academic Awards & Scholarships > University of Toronto Scarborough Dean's List section of the academic Calendar](#), in order to allow for tri-campus alignment of the recognition of sustained strong academic performance.

The current Dean's List regulation specifies that students are recognized once annually provided they have completed at least 1.5 credits in any of the preceding Fall, Winter or Summer terms. However, the regulation does not include a requirement for a minimum total credit count completed across the annual assessment period. This differs from the practices of the Faculty of Arts & Science and the University of Toronto Mississauga, both of which incorporate minimum credit thresholds in their Dean's List criteria.

The proposed amendment will align UTSC's Dean's List regulation with the approaches used across the other U of T Arts & Science divisions, ensuring greater consistency in the assessment and recognition of strong academic achievement. This alignment will also enhance transparency for students by providing clearer expectations regarding when Dean's List notations will appear on their transcripts.

Calendar Copy Showing All Changes

Current Text	Proposed Text
<i>Policies & Practices > Grades and Academic Records > Academic Awards & Scholarships > University of Toronto Scarborough Dean's List</i> https://utsc.calendar.utoronto.ca/grades-and-academic-records#awards University of Toronto Scarborough Dean's List The Dean's List is published annually in the Fall. All students who have achieved a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.5 or better in their most recent year of study will be considered as long as they have completed a minimum of 1.5 credits during the previous Fall, Winter, and Summer sessions.	<i>Policies & Practices > Grades and Academic Records > Academic Awards & Scholarships > University of Toronto Scarborough Dean's List</i> https://utsc.calendar.utoronto.ca/grades-and-academic-records#awards University of Toronto Scarborough Dean's List This designation is given to U of T Scarborough students having a cumulative GPA (cGPA) of 3.50 or higher at the end of the session in which the fifth, tenth, fifteenth and twentieth credit offered by the University has been passed. Students completing a Double Degree Program will have an additional assessment at the end of the session in which the twenty-fifth credit is completed. A notation will be added to the student's academic transcript in late February (for students who satisfy the requirements at the end of the Fall session), late May (for students who satisfy the requirements at the end of the Winter session) or late October (for students to satisfy the requirements at the end of the Summer session). There is no monetary value associated with this recognition. University of Toronto passed courses calculated as a part of the CGPA are included in the assessment for the Dean's List.

Implementation

The change will be approved for implementation, through a formal amendment to the UTSC Academic Calendar.

Rationale

This proposal creates alignment across the three U of T Arts & Science divisions in the assessment and recognition of student academic excellence.

Prior to the 2015-16 Academic Year, student academic excellence was recognized through the Honours list which recognized students who had achieved a 3.70 cGPA upon completion of their fifth, tenth, fifteenth and twentieth credits, a total of four opportunities to receive the recognition, generally aligning with year of study progression.

Effective the 2015-16 Academic Year, student academic excellence has been recognized through the Dean's List. This is assessed once per year, at the end of the summer session (the end of the academic year), and recognizes students if they have a cGPA of at least 3.50 and have completed at least 1.5 credits in any of the preceding Fall, Winter or Summer terms, however there is no provision for total credit count completed during this period. Our current parameters do not seem as rigorous as other divisions and students in standard Honours Degree Programs can receive this recognition more than four times depending on how they progress through their degree. For example, a student with a cGPA of 3.50 who completed 1.5 credits in Fall 2024, 0 credits in Winter 2025 and 0 credits in Summer 2025 would be recognized for the Fall 2025 Dean's List despite having only completed 1.5 credits in the previous academic year.

Alignment with the other Arts & Science divisions will allow for the recognition of sustained academic excellence at defined milestones across the student journey. It will also ensure that all students in Arts & Science divisions are treated consistently in the assessment and recognition of their academic achievements that are formally noted on their official transcript (similar to other recognitions such as graduating with Distinction or High Distinction).

Resource Implications

None.

Consultation

- Scarborough Campus Students' Union – January 2026 – in support with no feedback.
- Academic Advisor Community of Practice, UTSC – December 2025 – in support with editorial fix and no other feedback
- Office of the Registrar, U of T Mississauga – January 2026 – in support with no feedback
- Office of the Faculty Registrar, Faculty of Arts & Science – January 2026 – in support with no feedback
- Office of the Registrar and Student Services, John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design – March 2026 – in support with no feedback
- Academic department chairs, UTSC – January 2026 – in support with no feedback