

Course Restrictions Guide

Restriction Information for Students and Advisors

- **Student Population Restriction:** A section where registration is limited to students in a specific population. Restrictions on these sections typically remain consistent throughout the registration cycle. Examples of student population restrictions:
 - Major, minor, or concentration
 - Class standing (junior, senior, etc.)
 - Enrolled in specific program (SC Honors College, Opportunity Scholars Program, Palmetto College, etc.)
- **Date-Driven Restriction:** A section where registration is limited to students in a specific population when registration begins, then open to a wider population beginning the Friday of undergraduate general registration. Specific dates are provided in the [Academic Calendar](#).
 - Spring 2025 Registration Update Dates
 - First Update – Friday, 4/17/2026
 - Second Update – Friday, 4/24/2026
- **Special Approval:** A section where every student must receive an override in order to enroll. Students should review the text notes in the “Course Information” tab of the class details dialogue box in Self Service Carolina to determine who they should contact to request an override. Examples of special approval restrictions:
 - Contract Required
 - Department Permission
 - Instructor Permission
 - School Permission

Troubleshooting Registration Errors

- A student may receive an error message if they are not part of the restricted group authorized to register for a course section.
 - Students should consult the University Advising Center’s [Course Restrictions](#) webpage to learn more about the error message received.
 - Students wishing to request an override should first consult the University Advising Center’s [Override/Seat Notification Requests](#) webpage. *Note:* Course overrides are not guaranteed.

Restriction Information for Academic Units

- **Course Restriction Submission:** Course restrictions are due prior to when the master schedule goes live in my.sc.edu. Specific deadline dates will be communicated to academic unit schedule coordinators via the listserv.
- **Required Text Notes:** If a section has date-driven restrictions, the academic unit will be required to submit a text note describing them.
 - Text notes will be published:
 - In the “Course Information” tab of the class details dialogue box in Self Service Carolina
 - In the Registration Notes section of the Enhanced Class Search.
 - Suggested text note formats:
 - “Section restricted to ABC majors, minors, and concentrations. Opens to DEF majors, minors, and concentrations on 4/17/2026. Opens to XYZ majors, minors, and concentrations on 4/24/2026.”
 - OR
 - “Opens to all on 4/24/2026.”
- **Date-Driven Restriction Timeline:** Date-driven restrictions will be implemented according to the timeline listed below. Registrar staff implement changes to date-driven restrictions by 9:00 a.m. on the change date. Specific dates are provided in the [Academic Calendar](#).
 - First Update: Friday of undergraduate general registration week
 - Second Update: the following Friday, i.e. one week after the first update
- **Section Restriction Recommendations:** Sections with date-driven restrictions have scheduled changes on two dates. While each academic unit may group restrictions differently (majors, minors, concentrations, etc.), restrictions typically move from being most to least restrictive during the registration period.
 - 1st Group Recommendation: All majors, minors, or concentrations that require the course for program completion.
 - 2nd Group Recommendation: All majors, minors, or concentrations that list the course as an option for completion