Only the residential college dean may authorize postponement of a final examination. The residential college dean may give such permission because of an incapacitating illness, because of a family emergency requiring the student's absence from New Haven, or because of another matter of comparable moment. The residential college dean may also authorize such a postponement because of the observance of religious holy days, or because of participation required in an intercollegiate varsity athletic event. Students participating in events of intramural or club sports, as differentiated from varsity events sponsored by the Department of Athletics, are not eligible for a postponement of final examinations on account of those events. Finally, the college dean may authorize postponement of a final examination if a student has three examinations scheduled during the first two days of the final examination period, or three examinations scheduled consecutively in the final examination schedules. (See Final Examination Schedules in the YCPS.) The postponement of a final examination for any other reason requires the permission of the Committee on Honors and Academic Standing. A student's end-of-term travel plans are not a basis for the postponement of a final examination.

If the postponement of a final examination is occasioned by a conflict or by a crowded examination schedule, and if one of the examinations involved carries the published examination group number 0, the residential college dean must postpone that examination rather than an examination governed by a regular examination group number. See Final Examination Schedules and Restrictions under Reading Period and Final Examination Period. Permission to postpone a final examination does not authorize a student to submit other work late in the course. See Work Incomplete at the End of Term.

When a makeup examination has been authorized, the instructor is informed as promptly as possible. The authorization form serves both to notify the instructor and to request the instructor to prepare a makeup examination. Makeup examinations may be administered by the instructor or by the registrar, at the choice of the instructor. At the beginning of each term, the registrar sends an e-mail to instructors who have students scheduled for makeup examinations from the previous term. Instructors who choose to have the registrar administer the examination should furnish the registrar with a copy of the examination to be given according to the schedule stated in the e-mail. The completed examination is returned to the instructor for grading.

Makeup examinations for the fall term are administered at the end of the second week of classes in the spring term. Makeup examinations for the spring term are administered to first years, sophomores, and juniors at the end of the second week of classes in the following fall term. For seniors, makeup examinations for the spring term are administered immediately after final examination period in the spring term.