

REQUIRED HLC ACTION

From July 1, 2016 HLC status notification, IAC requires the interim monitoring including:

Interim Report. An interim report due 6/30/17 on documenting a credit hour policy that addresses all instructional modalities.

REFERENCE

Federal Credit Hour Definitions [34CFR 600.2]

Clock hour: A period of time consisting of -

- (1) A 50- to 60-minute class, lecture, or recitation in a 60-minute period;
 - (2) A 50- to 60-minute faculty-supervised laboratory, shop training, or internship in a 60-minute period;
- or
- (3) Sixty minutes of preparation in a correspondence course.

Credit hour: Except as provided in 34 CFR 668.8(k) and (l), a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than -

- (1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
 - (2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.
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REPLACES EXISTING POLICY

Standard Credit/Instructional Hour Base

Faculty Senate Approval - November, 2009

Standard Credit Hour Base

Under the semester academic calendar, the standard course credit hour will be based on three semester credit hours. While the majority of course offerings will be three credit hours, all course offerings will not be constrained to three credit hours. Justifications can be made for fewer or more credit hours per course so as to accommodate different academic program needs, curricular innovations, and instructional methods.

Standard Instructional Hour Base

Under the semester academic calendar, the standard class time instructional base will be 750 minutes per credit hour per semester: 1 Credit Hour Class=750 Scheduled Class Meeting Minutes per Semester.

Laboratories are twice that amount: 1 Credit Hour Laboratory=1500 Scheduled Laboratory Meeting Minutes per Semester. Over the span of a semester, the total class meeting minutes vary according to a courses' total credit hours and how it is scheduled.

REPLACES/INCORPORATES EXISTING POLICY

Non-Contact Credit Policy

Faculty Senate Approval – March 2015

Provost Approval – August 2015

Non-Contact Course Credit is defined as credit hours earned for activities such as laboratory work, studio work, internships, practica, experiential learning, independent study, independent reading, and other academic work.

Any WSU undergraduate student engaged in non-contact academic work will receive credit for same only if the work is performed under the supervision of and with approval from a WSU faculty member, with a formal written agreement noting the nature of the academic work, approved also by the appropriate program director, chair, or similar overseeing authority at a program-wide level.

Students engaged in such work should typically spend no less than 45 hours on approved work for each credit hour during the academic term for which credit is offered.