

Board Policies
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

280.00 CREDIT HOUR DEFINITION

The U.S. Department of Education, Higher Learning Commission and the Kansas Board of Regents define credit hour and have specific regulations that the college must follow when developing, teaching and assessing the educational aspects of the college. As such, the college shall utilize and adhere to the following:

1. 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 one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester hour of credit or an equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time.
2. The college shall record one semester hour of credit for any student who has made satisfactory progress and attended a class, which consists of at least the minimum class instruction time based on course classification type plus time allowed for a final examination. Minimum class instruction time per credit hour for a lecture class will consist of at least 750 minutes, a laboratory class at least 1,125 minutes, a physical activity class at least 1500 minutes and an ensemble class 2,250 minutes. A studio class will meet a minimum of 1500 – 2250 minutes per credit hour, depending on if any student work can be completed outside of the studio time. The college shall record one semester hour of credit for any student who completes a minimum of 2,700 minutes in on-the-job training, internships, practica, or clinical experiences in health occupations.
3. The number of semester hours of credit allowed for each distance education or blended hybrid courses shall be assigned by the college based on the amount of time needed to achieve the same course outcomes in a purely face-to-face format.

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