SECTION: Curriculum
TOPIC: BCSOM Credit Hours
Approved: Signature on File

Policy: SOM6000
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POLICY

The Burrell College of Health Sciences School of Osteopathic Medicine shall calculate the credit hour values based on the definition of a credit hour provided by the Federal government.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:

Registrar

DEFINITION:

The Federal definition of a credit hour is as follows:

> *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 activities as established by an institution, including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading toward to the award of credit hours. 34CFR 600.2 (11/1/2010).*

PROCEDURE:

1. The College shall ensure that instructional hours are defined as hours of instructional time according to the following table and shall only be applied to BCSOM courses listed in the College Catalog for which a student has registered:

Instructional Format	Contact Hours	Equivalent Instruction Hours
Instructional session (lecture, case-based learning, team-based learning, directed student assignments)	1	1
Laboratory instruction (basic science lab, clinical skills lab)	1	0.5
Examinations	1	1
Laboratory practical examinations	1	0.5

2. Course credit hours are determined by adding the total instructional hours in each course, and dividing the total by fifteen (15) to yield a course credit hour value. The calculation is as follows:

$$\text{course credit hours} = \frac{\text{total instructional hours in the course}}{15}$$

3. Credit hour calculations are rounded down to the nearest 0.5 hours to assign specific credit hour values to any given course.

4. Clinical clerkship rotations shall have one course credit assigned to each week of clinical rotation. Each week constitutes up to 80 clinical contact hours of supervised experiential learning.

CROSS REFERENCE:
34CFR 600.2 (11/1/2010)