



DEFINITION OF A CREDIT HOUR

POLICY

Sherman College of Chiropractic operates on the quarter system and has adopted the federal definition of the credit hour, which states:

“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.” (34 CFR 600.2)

The accreditation standards set forth by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE) stipulate that an accredited doctor of chiropractic program (DCP) “minimally requires the equivalent of 4,200 instructional hours, which ensures that the program is commensurate with doctoral level professional training in a health science discipline, a portion of which incorporates this training into patient care settings” (CCE Accreditation Standards 2013, Section H).

Credit assignment for academic programs is based on three hours of academic commitment per week per credit. Specifically, credits shall be assigned based on the intensity of the academic work:

- One credit hour shall be assigned for each contact hour per week of formal, scheduled lecture activity. This assumes two additional hours of assignments, study and/or preparation each week of the quarter.
- One credit hour shall be assigned for two contact hours per week of formal, scheduled laboratory activity. This assumes one additional hour of assignments, practice, study and/or preparation each week of the quarter.
- One credit hour shall be assigned for two contact hours per week of scheduled clinic or practicum activity. This assumes one additional hour per week of preparation, practice or study for each two scheduled hours of clinic or practicum activity.

In keeping with CCE standards, the college awards “clock,” or “instructional,” hours and additionally lists credit hours on student transcripts.