

Policy Name:	Policies for Awarding Credit
Original Approval Date:	09-18-2020
Approving Officer/Committee:	Medical Curriculum Committee
Revision Dates and Notes:	
Related LCME Element(s) (if any):	6.8

A. Policy – The institution employs sound and acceptable practices for determining the amount and level of credit awarded for courses, regardless of format or mode of delivery. These policies adhere to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) policy and commonly accepted practices in higher education. For more information on the Institutional policy on awarding credit can be found at <http://catalog.lsuhscshreveport.edu/content.php?catoid=15&navoid=552#awarding-credit>

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), which is the accrediting body for medical education programs in the United States and Canada, defines program length and academic credit in terms of weeks of instruction, requiring a minimum of 130 weeks of instruction for educational programs leading to the Doctor of Medicine degree (Functions and Structure of a Medical School, Standard 6.8). The Doctor of Medicine degree at LSUHSC-S requires a minimum of 164 weeks of instruction and determination of course credits is based on the contribution a given course makes to the total curriculum for each year; the assignment of credit value for each course is based on course length (calendar days), delivery method (lecture, laboratory, directed readings, research and supervised student-patient interactions) and content (basic science and clinical). All course offerings and credits are determined and approved by the School of Medicine’s Medical Curriculum Council and accredited by the LCME.

B. Purpose - The purpose of this policy is to describe the methods by which the institution determines the amount and level of credit awarded for courses.

C. Scope – All medical school students, faculty, staff, and administrators.