

Texas A&M University at Galveston

Average Credits Attempted and Mean Semesters toward Baccalaureate Degree in Program Areas*

<u>Degree Program</u>	<u># of Grads</u>	<u>Credits Attempted</u>	<u>Mean Semesters</u>
Science and Math	91	152	10
Arts and Architecture	10	163	11
Business	42	158	10
Engineering	20	155	11
Technology	26	155	9
Total Graduates	189		
Institutional Average		155	10

*Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

The legislation requires information on efforts implemented to help students graduate more quickly:

6. To ensure that undergraduate students graduate in a timely manner.

Texas A&M University at Galveston shares your interest to facilitate timely graduation. The baccalaureate programs offered by TAMUG vary in degree requirements from 120 semester credit hours (sch) to 160 sch. Degree programs in the upper range are designed to comply with federal requirements for maritime licensing. Students graduate with both a Bachelor of Science degree and a United States merchant marine license. In preparation for Fall 2008 regulatory changes, all curricula are under review with the intention to make programs as efficient as possible. At this time, two programs have been reduced to 120 hours.

7. To ensure that undergraduate students do not attempt an excessive number of semester credit hours beyond the minimum number required to complete the students' degree programs.

Incoming students are required to meet with a faculty advisor during new student conferences. Each is provided a degree plan. Transfer students are provided a course analysis and faculty advisors discuss courses applicable to the degree. To further enhance degree applicability, TAMUG fully promotes the Texas Common Course Number System. As a small campus, course schedules are coordinated across academic departments to minimize conflicts and promote availability.

8. To provide academic counseling concerning timely graduation.

Upon matriculation, every student is assigned a faculty advisor. While department practices differ, most employ systematic processes to encourage or require each student to meet with his or her advisor prior to registration. The mean credit hour load for full-time

students per term is 14.3 sch. Beyond the academic departments, the Office of Academic Enhancement offers general advising, tutoring services, supplemental instruction and early intervention programs. These services are offered at no cost to all students and directly support academic progress. To strengthen the academic culture and align intentions across the campus, student service processes such as club officers, class ring orders, professional and honor organizations and resident advisor selections, require a certain level of academic performance. Financial aid also reviews and counsels students concerning satisfactory academic progress including course completion rates. All students who are grade deficient at midterm are contacted as well as any student that does not pre-register for the next semester.

9. To develop an online student degree progress report which compares the courses taken and credit received by a student to the courses completed and needed for degree and graduation requirements for each academic term.

Texas A&M University at Galveston, as a branch campus of TAMU, implemented an automated degree audit system in 1988. All faculty advisors and academic support personnel are trained and have access to the automated system. A student system (Bonfire) was added in 1996. A fully online system for direct student access was implemented in 2003. In addition to continual online access, students are provided a hard copy of their degree plan at the beginning of their senior year or by request at any time.

10. To implement tuition policies that encourage timely graduation.

The University catalog, websites, course schedules and registration systems are used to promote the graduation rebate. No additional tuition programs have been implemented at this time. At TAMUG, the most significant constraints to timely graduation include maritime license requirements, insufficient academic preparation and program of study changes.

Texas A&M University at Galveston

Responses to H.B. 1172 Timely Graduation Report Requirements November 2005

Efforts to Help Students Graduate More Quickly

1. To ensure that undergraduate students graduate in a timely manner.
Texas A&M University at Galveston shares your interest to facilitate timely graduation. The baccalaureate programs offered by TAMUG vary in degree requirements from 128 semester credit hours (sch) to 160 sch. Degree programs in the upper range are designed to comply with federal requirements for maritime licensing. Students graduate with both a Bachelor of Science degree and a United States merchant marine license.
2. To ensure that undergraduate students do not attempt an excessive number of semester credit hours beyond the minimum number required to complete the students' degree programs.
Incoming students are required to meet with a faculty advisor during new student conferences. Each is provided a degree plan. Transfer students are provided a course analysis and faculty advisors discuss courses applicable to the degree. To further enhance degree applicability, TAMUG fully promotes the Texas Common Course Number System. As a small campus, course schedules are coordinated across academic departments to minimize conflicts and promote availability.
3. To provide academic counseling concerning timely graduation.
Upon matriculation, every student is assigned a faculty advisor. While department practices differ, most employ systematic processes to encourage or require each student to meet with his or her advisor prior to registration. The mean credit hour load for full-time students per term is 14.64 sch. Beyond the academic departments, the Office of Academic Enhancement offers general advising, tutoring services, supplemental instruction and early intervention programs. These services are offered at no cost to all students and directly support academic progress. To strengthen the academic culture and align intentions across the campus, student affairs functions such as club officers, class ring orders, professional and honor organizations and resident advisor selections, require a certain level of academic performance. Financial aid also reviews and counsels students concerning satisfactory academic progress including course completion rates.
4. To develop an online student degree progress report which compares the courses taken and credit received by a student to the courses completed and needed for degree and graduation requirements for each academic term.

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5. To implement tuition policies that encourage timely graduation.
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