



Policy Title

Graduation Policy (formerly Minimum Credit Hours and Residency Credits Needed to Graduate Policy)

Policy Number

1-020

Responsible Unit: Office of Academic Affairs	Effective Date: June 14, 2021
Responsible Official: Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	Last Reviewed Date: June 14, 2021
Policy Classification: Academic Affairs	Last Revised Date: June 14, 2021
	Origination Date: Before 2019

I. Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to inform SULC students of the minimum credit hours and residency credits necessary to graduate.

II. Policy Scope

This policy applies to students.

III. Policy Compliance

This policy will identify the minimum credit hours and grade-point average necessary to graduate.

IV. Policy Definitions

Not applicable.

V. Policy Development and Implementation Procedure

The policy was created by the SULC faculty in an effort to establish the minimum credit hours and grade-point average necessary to graduate. The Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs will be charged with implementing and enforcing this policy. This policy continues the prior policy but places it in a document in an approved policy format and with an approved policy number.

VI. Policy and Applicable Procedures

A. Credit Hours

For graduation, there must be satisfactory completion of at least 90 semester hours of professional courses, including required courses, earning a 2.0 cumulative grade point average. Additionally, no student may qualify for the awarding of the Juris Doctor degree who has not acquired a 2.0 average for all required courses.

The faculty has discretion to relax the requirement of a GPA of 2.0 in required courses in exceptional cases, on such conditions as it deems appropriate, including the requirement of further study and repetition of designated courses.

A student unable to graduate under these rules may petition the faculty for permission to remain enrolled until his or her graduation is approved.

Electives are offered as a part of the curriculum, and students are permitted to take the elective courses specified during the second and third years of school.

Some additional courses may be assigned by the administration based on assessments of the student's work in various courses and the student must take these additional courses. Each student is responsible for keeping informed of the number of additional credits needed to meet the graduation requirements.

B. Residency Credits

As of Spring 2020, SULC no longer requires a student to earn a particular number of residency credits in order to graduate.

VII. Policy History and Review


This policy was created and became effective prior to the implementation of the uniform policy format which was implemented in 2019. In February 2020, the faculty abolished the residency credits requirement. The policy is subject to a five-year policy review cycle and shall be reviewed by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and any changes will be submitted to the faculty for consideration.

VIII. Publication of Policy

This policy is published on the Southern University Law Center website at <https://www.sulc.edu/page/sulc-policies>.

IX. Policy Approval

This policy was approved by the law faculty June 14, 2021.



John K. Pierre
Chancellor, Southern University Law Center

June 14, 2021
Date