

**SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**SUBJECT:** Academic Credit

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2000; Revised November 5, 2013; Revised February 9, 2023

**Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to students and others regarding what constitutes an academic credit hour and how they are earned at Southwest Tennessee Community College (“Southwest” or “the College”).

**Policy**

To earn academic credit hours at Southwest, an individual must be officially admitted, enrolled in the College, registered for at least one course, and satisfactorily complete the requirements of the course.

An academic credit hour is the amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:

- A. One (1) hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two (2) hours of out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester hour of credit; or
- B. At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph A above for other instructional modes of delivery as established by the College, including distance education, hybrid, independent study, internships, studio work, laboratory work, practica, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

For laboratory academic work, a student will earn one (1) credit hour per semester for two (2) or three (3) contact hours per week that semester, depending upon the nature of the course.


For clinical academic work, a student will earn one (1) credit hour per semester for three (3) contact hours per week that semester.

For practicum or cooperative academic work, a student will earn one (1) credit hour per semester for six (6) contact hours per week that semester.

**Responsible**

**Source of Policy:** Federal and SACSCOC regs    **Administrator:** VP of Academic Affairs

**Related Policy:** \_\_\_\_\_    **TBR Policy Reference:** 5.02.04.10

**Approved:**     **Date:** February 9, 2023  
**President**