Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the minimum residency requirement for earning a master’s degree.

Policy Details

The minimum residency requirement for the master’s degree is two terms of full-time study or equivalent. Part-time students and students who are deficient in preparation for their advanced study may require more than two terms for completion of the requirements for the degree.

Students have six calendar years from the time of first enrollment in a master’s or doctoral degree program to complete the master’s degree. An extension for extraordinary circumstances (e.g., an official leave of absence) may be considered by the Dean upon written petition from the student.

All master’s degree students, except those on active military duty, will enroll each semester. All students must adhere to the leave policies of the College (see Absence policy).

Policy Scope

Applies to all Master of Science and Master of Dental Science degree students regardless of degree candidacy status.

Related Policies

Absence
Admission to Degree Candidacy - Masters
Definitions

Active military duty. “Full-time duty in the active service of a (United States) uniformed service, and includes full-time training duty, annual training duty, full-time National Guard duty, and attendance, while in the active service, at a school designated as a service school by law or by the Secretary concerned. The term ‘active service’ means service on active duty.” [37 USCS § 101]

Degree candidacy. The satisfactory demonstration of the necessary preparation to continue pursuit of the desired degree.

Term of full-time study. A term of full-time study is defined as nine or more hours of graduate credit earned in one academic term.

Supporting Information

Title 37 - PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES
CHAPTER 1 - DEFINITIONS

Document History

Revised and approved January 22, 2013 by Graduate Studies Council to align Leave of Absence and Withdrawal policies with UTHSC policy.

Administratively reviewed by Graduate Studies Council October 27, 2015.