

1. Title

Academic Workload Requirements

2. Rule and Regulation

- Sec. 1 Statutory Requirement. State law requires the Board of Regents to adopt rules concerning faculty academic workloads. *Texas Education Code* [Section 51.402](#) recognizes that important elements of workload include classroom teaching, basic and applied research, and professional development. Workload for the faculty members of the institutions of The University of Texas System is expressed in terms of classroom teaching, teaching equivalencies, and presidential credits for assigned activities.
- Sec. 2 Minimum Workload. Each person paid full time from the appropriations item "Faculty Salaries" shall be assigned a minimum workload equivalent to 18 semester credit hours of instruction in organized undergraduate classes each nine-month academic year, or fiscal year at an institution's option, in accordance with guidelines listed below.
- Sec. 3 Source of Funding. When a faculty member is paid partially from a source of funds other than the "Faculty Salaries" line item, the minimum workload shall be proportioned to the percentage of salary paid from the appropriations item "Faculty Salaries."
- Sec. 4 Supervision of Teaching Assistants. Teaching assistants shall be used only when given proper guidance and supervision to ensure quality instruction. The minimum faculty workload established below does not apply to graduate teaching assistants or assistant instructors who are pursuing degrees. The institutional head is responsible for assuring that all teaching assistants are carefully supervised.
- Sec. 5 Institutional Requirements. This policy sets the minimum workload and equivalencies only; an institution may enact more intensive and/or more detailed minimum requirements for inclusion in the institutional *Handbook of Operating Procedures*, following appropriate approvals. For example, an institution may set individual minimum requirements, consistent with these minimum guidelines, for a specific school or college.

- Sec. 6    Equivalencies. The following equivalencies are available to meet workload requirements:
- 6.1    Graduate Instructions. One semester credit hour of graduate instruction will be considered the equivalent of one and one-half semester credit hours of undergraduate instruction.
  - 6.2    Labs. One and one-half contact hours of instruction of regularly scheduled laboratory and clinical courses, physical activity courses, studio art, studio music instruction, and primary music performance organizations, such as ensembles and marching bands, for each week of a long-term semester will be considered the equivalent of one semester credit hour of undergraduate instruction.
  - 6.3    Supervision. Supervision of student teachers, clinical supervision, and intern supervision shall be credited such that 12 total student semester credit hours taught will be considered the equivalent of one semester credit hour.
  - 6.4    Honors Program or Individual Research Projects. Supervision of student practicum and individual instruction courses, such as honors programs and individual research projects, shall provide equivalency at the rate of one-tenth semester credit hour for each student semester hour of undergraduate instruction and one-fifth semester hour for each student semester hour of graduate instruction per long-term semester. In no case will individual instruction in a single course generate more semester credit hour equivalence than if the course were taught as a regularly scheduled, organized course.
  - 6.5    Thesis or Dissertation Supervision. Graduate thesis or dissertation supervision shall provide equivalent credit hours only to the chairperson of the thesis or dissertation committee at the rate of one semester credit hour for each six total student semester hours of thesis research credit and at the rate of one semester credit hour for each three total student semester hours of dissertation credit.
  - 6.6    Coordination of Courses. A faculty member who coordinates several sections of a single course shall be

given one semester hour of workload credit for each six sections coordinated up to a maximum of three semester hours of credit per semester.

- 6.7 Large Classes. Workload credit may be proportionally increased for teaching a large class that requires extensive grading or evaluation of students' work by the faculty member according to the following weighing factors:

<u>Weighing Class Size</u>	<u>Factor</u>
59 or less	1.0
60 - 69	1.1
70 - 79	1.2
80 - 89	1.3
90 - 99	1.4
100 - 124	1.5
125 - 149	1.6
150 - 174	1.7
175 - 199	1.8
200 - 249	1.9
250 or more	2.0

- 6.8 Proportional Credit. When more than one teacher participates in the instruction of a single course, the credit is proportioned according to the effort expended.
- 6.9 Insufficient Enrollment. A reduced workload may be granted temporarily if assigned classes do not materialize because of insufficient enrollment and when additional classes or other academic duties cannot be assigned to the faculty member. This exception may be granted for two consecutive long-term semesters only for any particular faculty member.
- 6.10 Administrative Services. Workload credit may be granted for a faculty member who is head of a department or head of a comparable administrative unit up to a maximum of six semester hours of workload credit per semester. When justified by the department/unit head and approved by the institutional head, three hours of credit may be given to faculty members who provide non-teaching academic services to the department/unit head. In no case will the total for departmental administration,

including the head, exceed nine workload credits per semester unless the institution's organizational structure includes academic units composed of more than one academic discipline.

- 6.11 **New Faculty Members.** At the recommendation of the head of the department or comparable unit and upon approval of the institutional head, up to three semester hours of workload credit for each of two semesters may be given to a newly-appointed faculty member during the first year of employment for the purpose of developing instructional materials for the courses he or she will teach.
- 6.12 **Course Development.** At the recommendation of the departmental chair and upon approval of the institutional head, workload credit may be granted to a faculty member involved in the creation of a new course, new course format, or new course materials.
- 6.13 **Credit Granted by Institution Head.** Academic workload credit granted by the head of the institution for all other purposes is limited to 1% of the total semester credit hours taught at the institution during the comparable (fall or spring) semester in the previous year. With the approval of the institutional head, limited faculty workload credit (within the 1% limit above) may be granted for major academic advising responsibilities, for basic and applied research following a research work plan approved pursuant to institutional policy, for preparing major documents in the fulfillment of programmatic needs or accreditation requirements, or for duties performed in the best interest of the institution's instructional programs as determined by the head of the institution.

Sec. 7 **Monitoring of Workloads.** The president of an institution shall designate the officer of the institution who will monitor workloads, review workload reports, and submit the reports to the institutional head for approval and comment, as appropriate, prior to submitting the reports to the Board of Regents through the System Administration following the standard reporting format and deadlines as provided by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in accordance with *Texas Education Code Section 51.402* and any applicable riders in the current *General Appropriations Act*.

Sec. 8 Compliance Assessment. Every faculty member's compliance with these minimum academic workload requirements shall be assessed each academic year. If a faculty member is found to be out of compliance, the institution shall take appropriate steps to address the noncompliance and to prevent such noncompliance in the future.

**3. Definitions**

None

**4. Relevant Federal and State Statutes**

*Texas Education Code* [Section 51.402](#) – Report of Institutional and Academic Duties

**5. Relevant System Policies, Procedures, and Forms**

None

**6. Who Should Know**

Administrators  
Faculty

**7. System Administration Office(s) Responsible for Rule**

Office of Academic Affairs  
Office of Health Affairs

**8. Dates Approved or Amended**

November 10, 2011  
December 10, 2004

**9. Contact Information**

Questions or comments regarding this Rule should be directed to:

- [bor@utsystem.edu](mailto:bor@utsystem.edu)