



## RUTGERS POLICY

**Section:** 10.2.5

**Section Title:** Student Academic Regulations & Policies

**Policy Name:** Student Scholastic Standing and Graduation

**Formerly Book:** 2.4.5

**Approval Authority:** Board of Governors

**Responsible Executive:** Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Responsible Office:** Office of Academic Affairs

**Originally Issued:** 1959

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**Policy:**

### 10.2.5 STUDENT SCHOLASTIC STANDING AND GRADUATION

- A. The legislative body of each degree-granting division of the University shall define for its students the quantitative degree requirements, the measure of scholastic standing required for graduation, and the measure of scholastic standing required for good scholastic standing, subject to minimum conditions set by the University Senate. The measure of scholastic standing required for graduation, as well as for good scholastic standing, may be specified in any one of three ways:
  - (1) In terms of a grade average.
  - (2) In terms of the number of credits to be completed at specified stages.
  - (3) In terms of the ratio of credits satisfactorily completed to the total number of credits taken.
- B. Except as limited by section 10.2.4, each legislative body shall determine for its own students which courses and which grades are applicable toward measuring progress toward a degree, and which should be entered on the permanent transcript.
- C. The minimum requirements for a baccalaureate degree shall be 120 credits. No baccalaureate degree may be awarded to a candidate unless he or she meets whichever of the following criteria is applicable to the division in which he or she is matriculated.
  - (1) For those divisions measuring scholastic standing by a grade average, the grade average may be set at a level deemed appropriate by the respective division.

However, a minimum grade point average of 2.0 is needed for graduation.

- (2) For those divisions measuring scholastic standing in terms of the number of credits to be completed at specified stages, the requirements for the baccalaureate degree must be met within a time period specified by the appropriate legislative body.
  - (3) For those divisions measuring scholastic standing by ratio of credits successfully completed, the percentage of credits satisfactorily completed must be at least 80% of the total number taken.
- D. No baccalaureate degree may be awarded to any student who has earned less than 30 of the final 42 credits accepted for the degree at Rutgers University.
- E. Each graduate and professional school may set residence requirements, or specify a minimum number of courses or credits which must be taken at Rutgers University toward its own advanced degrees.
- F. (1) A student who already has a baccalaureate degree from Rutgers University or another accredited college or university may apply to any undergraduate college for the purpose of obtaining a second baccalaureate degree at that college. The requirements for obtaining such a degree shall be set by the college but shall include successful completion of (a) a minimum of 30 new credits at Rutgers University, (b) all of the college's requirements for the new degree in effect at the time of matriculation for that degree, and (c) all requirements for a new major. Credits earned previously, including those applied toward the first baccalaureate degree, may be considered for transfer and, if approved, may be applied toward fulfillment of requirements for a new major. Credits earned previously, including those applied toward the first baccalaureate degree, may be considered for transfer, and, if approved, may be applied toward fulfillment of requirements (b) and (c). Colleges may strengthen the above requirements, for example, by requiring more than 30 new credits, or by specifying that students with a particular baccalaureate degree and/or a particular major will not be admitted to obtain a second degree with certain other majors. Colleges may use their readmission procedures for their own graduates who wish to obtain second baccalaureate degrees at the same college.
- (2) Undergraduate colleges may offer students presently enrolled in the college the opportunity to receive two baccalaureate degrees if, in addition to satisfying the requirements for two major fields, they also accumulate a minimum of 30 credits beyond that required for one baccalaureate degree. Colleges may strengthen the above requirements, for example, by requiring more than 30 additional credits, or by specifying that students with a particular major will not be permitted to obtain a second degree with certain other majors; colleges may also decide not to offer the opportunity for a second degree to presently enrolled students.
- G. A student failing to meet the criteria for good scholastic standing in his or her curriculum shall be considered a deficient student. No deficient student may continue in his or her curriculum without the permission of the legislative body of the college in which he or she is enrolled. Permission to continue should not ordinarily be granted if, in terms of the three alternative methods of defining scholastic standing:
- (1) his or her grade average is numerically lower than 1.2;

- (2) the number of credits satisfactorily completed is less than 60% of the minimum taken by a full-time student;
- (3) the percentage of credits satisfactorily completed of the total number of credits taken is less than 60%.

H. In those divisions where most of the candidates for the baccalaureate degree are full-time students, each student's class will be determined by the Registrar, with the advice of academic authority when necessary. The purpose of such classification shall be to predict the year of graduation for each student and to group students accordingly. For programs which require four years to complete, the Registrar may be guided by the ratio of the number of credits the student has earned to the total number of credits required for graduation in the curriculum in which he or she is registered, except that any student with an entrance condition shall be classified as a freshman. If a full-time student has completed (in September) less than 18% of the work in a curriculum, that student ordinarily shall be classified as a freshman; if 18% or more but less than 45%, as a sophomore; if 45% or more but less than 70%, as a junior; if 70% or more, as a senior.