



Pharmacy Student Academic Workload

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<p>Policy: Academic Workload</p> <p>Reason for Policy: To explain academic workload expectations of students</p> <p>Applicable to: Professional Education Program Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree</p> <p>Procedures: Academic Workload Procedure</p> <p>Forms/Instructions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None <p>Appendices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None <p>Related Policies or Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None	<p>Effective: Spring 2023</p> <p>History:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval Date: 4/28/23• Replaces version dated: N/A• Timeline for Updating: 1 yr• Date of future review: Sept 2024 <p>Policy Owner: Associate Dean, Assessment & Quality</p> <p>Policy Contact: Associate Dean, Professional Education</p>
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Reason for policy

The College seeks to optimize learning in the professional program, which includes managing student workload. Student burnout and cognitive overload have negative consequences for learning. As the curriculum has become more complex, it is important to recognize the total student time that should be dedicated to academic program learning. A clear set of expectations for learning is needed, as well as a process for review.

This policy also assists in ensuring that the College meets ACPE accreditation standard 10.11:

Curriculum review and quality assurance - Curriculum design, delivery, and sequencing are regularly reviewed and, when appropriate, revised by program faculty to ensure optimal achievement of educational outcomes with reasonable student workload expectations.

Policy

The professional program uses Total Student Academic Time (TSAT) as a means to describe learning expectations. TSAT includes in-classroom and out-of-class time. It recognizes that students are increasingly balancing both in-class and flexibly-scheduled learning (eg, pre-work, assignments,), as well as study time. TSAT is an estimate of the time that is needed to achieve the week's learning goals.

The expected academic workload for the average student should average approximately 40 hours per week and not exceed 50 hours per



week.

Forms/instructions

- None

Additional contacts

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Definitions

Total Student Academic Time

This is an estimate of the average weekly academic expectations of the average student, which includes in class learning, flexibly scheduled learning (ie, asynchronous learning) and study time . This estimate does not include non-academic work experiences (ie, internships) or professional experiences (eg, officer within a student organization) that a student may elect to undertake.

In Class Learning

Curricular activities that take place in real-time, where a group of students are engaged in learning at the same time in an educational space (eg, classroom, lab).



Flexibly-Scheduled Learning

Curricular activities that take place according to the student's own schedule, but are required learning activities that are designed to support the students in meeting the learning objectives. Examples may include, but are not limited to reviewing materials prior to a session, viewing online learning modules, completing homework assignments, or preparation for presentations.

Responsibilities

Professional Education Program Council

- Establishes guidelines for estimating and monitoring academic workload
- Oversees compliance in association with administrators
- Receives standard data on workload estimates and monitoring
- Requests additional data as needed to understand any workload concerns
- Reports on academic workload annually, including recommendations for ongoing improvements

Associate Dean for Professional Education, Associate Dean for Student Services and Assistant Dean for Experiential Education

- Works with professional education staff to establish systems for estimating workload, and collecting information on actual workload from students and faculty
- Works with block/course directors to resolve workload concerns

Associate Dean for Assessment & Quality

- Receives annual reports from the Professional Education Program



Council, including descriptions of mid-semester changes and any recommendations from the Council for ongoing improvements

- Works with administrators and course directors for ongoing improvements

Course Directors

- Work with professional education program staff to request and track estimates from instructors
- Collaborate with other instructors and administrators in responding to workload concerns.

Frequently asked questions

How does Total Student Academic Time differ from instructional time?
TSAT includes all the work of the student including in class time, flexibly scheduled learning and study time. Only a portion of these activities are prescribed by instructors. Instructors plan in class time and flexibly scheduled learning.

Related information

Pharmacy Accreditation

The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education has [stipulations for the design of educational programs](#) and amounts of types of instruction, which enact Department of Education standards related to distance education.



University Policy on Expected Student Academic Work per Credit

This [policy](#) recognizes the amount of student work needed for an average student to earn an average grade and indicates: It is expected that the academic work required of Graduate School and professional school students will exceed three hours per credit per week.

Appendices

- None

History

Drafted: Reimagining Architects Team 1.1.23

Effective: Spring 2023

Amended: