

## TCU University Council Proposal

**Proposal:** Recommendation 2 from the Ad Hoc Committee on Curricular Impediments to Transfer Student Success

**Submitted by:** Dr. Floyd Wormley, Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

**Background:** TCU transfer students in 2023 represented 14.8% of new students on campus. However, these transfer students persist at a 6.6% lower rate, and graduate at a 7.5 lower rate than incoming first-year students. The Board of Trustees want to address and mitigate these lower performance metrics while maintaining the integrity of the TCU degree, which is in alignment with the TCU mission.

To address impediments that may contribute to the reduced performance of transfer students, the Ad Hoc Committee on Curricular Impediments to Transfer Student Success developed the following recommendation to reduce the impediments for TCU undergraduate transfer students:

- Lower the residency requirement from 58 to 45 credit hours except when other curricular requirements, accreditation, and/or licensure prevent such a policy. SACSCOC requires a minimum of 25% of credit hours in residence. 45 places us well above this requirement, maintains the integrity of the TCU degree, and allows students who arrive with significant credits amassed to work through expeditiously. While it may continue to be impossible to complete a degree with 45 hours in residence in some programs, this lower minimum number of hours in residence as a university rule allows flexibility for the programs in which it is possible without compromising those in which it is not.

Institutional Effectiveness reviewed this recommendation and stated “SACSCOC standard 9.4 requires at least 25% of credit hours required for an undergraduate degree are earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree.” From an institutional accreditation perspective there would be no compliance concerns for any undergraduate program that requires 120-144 credit hours. Any undergraduate program that requires more than 144 hours would need to ensure the 25% rule is applied to their program.

**Motion:** Lower the residency requirement from 58 to 45 credit hours except when other curricular requirements, accreditation, and/or licensure prevent such a policy.