

## WHAT IS A “FULL-TIME STUDENT” AT TEXAS A&M?

Source: <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule01> (non-relevant information not included, emphasis is ours)

### 1. Student Registration

(Revised: 2016)

1.7 A full-time **undergraduate** student is defined as one who is enrolled **for at least 12 semester hours** during a fall or spring semester or eight hours in a summer semester. A Q grade or W grade does not count toward the certification of enrollment status. Only hours for which a student is currently enrolled at Texas A&M University can be used toward certification of enrollment. **During his or her last semester prior to graduation**, if an undergraduate student is enrolled at Texas A&M in all remaining hours needed to complete his or her degree and has applied for graduation, he or she may be certified as a full-time student for that final semester even though he or she may be enrolled in less than 12 semester hours during a fall or spring semester or eight hours in a summer semester. **Students participating in student teaching, internships, and cooperative education programs, and study abroad programs who are enrolled in less than 12 hours during a fall or spring semester or eight hours in a summer semester may be eligible to be certified as a full-time student with the approval of the Dean of the College or his or her designee.** These certifications listed above based on exceptions might not be used to qualify for Federal Financial Aid as federal regulations determine financial aid eligibility.

1.8 A full-time **graduate** student is defined as one who is registered for **nine semester hours** during a fall or spring semester or six hours in a summer semester. A Q grade or W grade does not count toward the certification of enrollment status. **During his or her last semester prior to graduation**, if a graduate student is enrolled at Texas A&M in all remaining hours needed to complete his or her degree, has applied for graduation and does not hold a graduate assistantship, he or she may be certified as a full-time student for that final semester even though he or she may be enrolled in less than nine semester hours during a fall or spring semester, or six hours in a summer semester. **Students participating in student teaching, internships, and cooperative education programs who are enrolled in less than nine semester hours during a fall or spring semester or six hours during a summer semester may be eligible to be certified as a full-time student with the approval of the Dean of the College or his or her designee.** These certifications listed above based on exceptions might not be used to qualify for Federal Financial Aid as federal regulations determine financial aid eligibility.

1.8.1 A student participating in an advanced dental education graduate program may be classified as full time. These postdoctoral advanced dental specialty curricula require a mandatory course of study and various experiences including extensive patient treatment, internships, external rotations, research and special studies defined and accepted by Texas A&M University as adequate to constitute full time enrollment. Federal regulations determine eligibility for financial aid recipients. Policies and procedures within the Scholarships & Financial Aid Office will address enrollment definitions for financial aid purposes.

1.10 A student participating in a first professional degree program (M.D., D.D.S., PharmD, D.V.M., and J.D.) can be certified as full time with the exception of students enrolled in the J.D. part time program. These highly structured, cohort driven curricula require a mandatory course of study and various experiences unique to the concentration of the degree and are accepted by Texas A&M University as adequate to constitute full time enrollment. (See individual first professional school student handbooks for details.) Variations of the full time curricula exist for the benefit of select student groups to allow access that may be titled split or extended. (See individual first professional school student handbooks for details, including tuition structure.) These are regarded as full time programs exceeding the basic criteria of full time status for conventional graduate students.

Federal regulations determine eligibility for financial aid recipients. Policies and procedures within the Scholarships & Financial Aid Office will address enrollment definitions for financial aid purposes.