

**UPDATE TO  
UC 8794 05F  
Received 11/15/05**

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TO: Lawrence Williams, Chair  
Undergraduate Council

FROM: Richard Scamell  
Academic Policies and Procedures Committee

SUBJECT: Changes to Residency Requirements in the Major (UC ~~8542~~ 05F)

DATE: November 9 2005

8538

APPROVED NOV 16 2005

This report considers a request from the Bauer College of Business to change the residency requirements in the major. Participating in the discussion of this request held on Wednesday, October 26 were committee members Joel Bloom, William Chemish, Willie Munson, Charles Peters, Richard Scamell, Maria Solino, and Rebecca Achee Thornton. Frank Kelley attended the meeting as a guest.

#### Background

Candidates for a baccalaureate degree at the University of Houston must satisfy two residency requirements. The first defines the type of courses that must be taken in residence while the second requires that the last 30 semester hours to be applied to a bachelor's degree be taken in residence at the University of Houston. These requirements appear on page 73 of the 2005-07 Undergraduate Studies Catalog.

#### University Residency Requirements (See Page 73 in the 2005-07 Undergraduate Studies Catalog)

10. Students must complete at least 30 semester hours in residence.
  - a. These residence hours are not to include credit by examination, special problems, or individual research courses taken at the University of Houston.
  - b. A minimum of nine semester hours of advanced work in the major field must be completed in residence.
11. The last 30 semester hours to be applied toward a bachelor's degree must be taken in residence.

In addition to these minimum university requirements, additional requirements may be imposed by an individual department or college. UC 8538 05F contains a request from the Bauer College of Business to redefine the minimum number of semester hours of advanced work in the major field that must be completed in residence by students in various areas of concentration. The complete current and proposed Bauer College of Business residency requirements appear below. The proposed changes appear in **bold italics**.

#### Current Bauer College of Business Residency Requirement (See Page 124 in the 2005-07 Undergraduate Studies Catalog)

The last 30 semester hours of a bachelor's degree must be completed in residence. A residency requirement of 12 semester hours of advanced accounting course work is required for the accounting area of concentration. Twelve semester hours of advanced MIS course work in residence are required for the MIS area of concentration. In the remaining areas of concentration, nine semester hours of advanced course work in residence are required.

#### Proposed Bauer College of Business Residency Requirement

The last 30 semester hours of a bachelor's degree must be completed in residence. ~~A residency requirement of 12 semester hours of advanced accounting course work is required for the accounting area of concentration.~~ ***Eighteen*** semester hours of advanced MIS course work in residence are required for the MIS area of concentration. ~~In the remaining areas of concentration, nine semester hours of advanced course work in residence are required.~~ A residency requirement of ***15*** semester hours of advanced accounting course work is required for the accounting area of concentration. In the remaining areas of concentration, ~~nine~~ ***twelve*** semester hours of advanced course work in residence are required.

#### Recommendation

The Committee unanimously endorses the proposed increase in the number of hours in the major field that must be taken in residency as a way to improve the integrity and quality of the degree. In addition, the Committee also recommends that the location of the University of Houston residency requirement be added to the index of future Undergraduate Studies catalogs.

**Note:** Line with the double strikethrough in Proposed Bauer College of Business Residency Requirement is the only change to UC 8794 05F.