



Policy Number: II.14
Policy Level: Operating Policy
Originally Issued: April 18, 2013
Revised: March 16, 2015
Revised: January 13, 2016
Revised: March 1, 2016
Revised: August 18, 2016
Revised: March 12, 2019
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Policy Owner: Provost/VP Academic Affairs
Policy Implementation: Registrar
SACSCOC Standard: 9.1, 9.4 and 9.5

General University Requirements for Graduation

I. Policy Statement and Purpose

In accordance with Athens State University's educational mission, this policy establishes the minimum requirements that must be fulfilled by any student receiving a degree from Athens State University. These standards are based on comparable practices at other institutions of higher education, and also recognize the unique status of the University as an upper-division institution.

Student admitted **PRIOR** to Fall 2022 may contact the Registrar's Office with questions regarding specific graduation requirements.

II. General University Requirements

Every student planning on completing an undergraduate or graduate degree/major program at Athens State University must satisfy all University requirements and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Undergraduate

To be eligible to receive an **undergraduate degree**, a student must:

- Complete at least a total of 124 semester hours with 25 percent of the degree requirements earned at Athens State University.
- Complete all of the general education and pre-professional courses (Areas I-V) required for the degree or major(s).
- Complete all course requirements for the degree or major(s).
- Complete a minimum of 15 semester hours of upper level (300-400 level) coursework in the major at Athens State University, not including courses taken by reciprocal or visiting arrangements. College or departmental regulations may require completion of more than 15 semester hours of coursework in the major at Athens State University. These degree-specific requirements are published in the appropriate degree/major section of the University catalog.
- Attain an institutional grade point average of 2.0 on all coursework attempted at Athens State University, and at least a 2.0 in the major field. College or departmental regulations may require grade point averages higher than 2.0. These degree-specific requirements are published in the appropriate degree/major section of the University catalog.



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- When applicable, complete all course requirements for a minor with a minimum of six (6) semester hours of upper-level coursework in the minor from Athens State University. College or departmental regulations may require completion of more than six (6) semester hours of coursework in the minor at Athens State University. These specific requirements are published in the appropriate Minors section of the University catalog.
- Apply no more than 64 semester hours of non-traditional/non-graded college credit toward the degree.
- Complete the requirements for teacher certification (when applicable).

Graduate

To be eligible to receive a **graduate degree**, a student must:

- Complete all degree requirements. (NOTE: Transfer students may only transfer a maximum of six (6) semester hours of graduate coursework into the University unless otherwise specified in the *Transfer and Acceptance of Academic Credit* policy. All other graduate coursework must be completed at Athens State University.)
- Attain an institutional grade point average of 3.0 on all graduate coursework attempted at Athens State University.
- Complete all course requirements for the graduate degree or major(s).

Coursework that is more than five (5) years old at the time of application for graduation may not be used for fulfilling graduate course requirements or a degree. A maximum of two C's in courses required for the graduate degree will be applied for fulfilling course requirements or a degree.

III. Responsibility for this Operating Policy

Policy Owner

As part of the initial approval of this policy by the President and subsequent to the original dissemination of the policy, the President has assigned the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs as the policy owner for the ongoing evaluation, review, and approval of this policy. Subsequent reviews and revisions to this policy must be in accordance with approved operating policy procedures and processes.



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This policy will be reviewed every three years or more frequently as needed by the Policy Owner. Revisions will be reviewed/affirmed by the Faculty Senate and the Cabinet and approved by the University President. This policy will be updated/published in the University's Policy Library.

Responsibility for Policy Implementation

The President has assigned the responsibility of implementing this policy to the Registrar, under the direction of the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Support Services, and the Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management.