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SUBCHAPTER S. TRANSFER OF CREDIT

§ 61.821. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) "Core curriculum" means the curriculum in liberal arts, humanities, and sciences and political, social, and cultural history that all undergraduate students of an institution of higher education are required to complete before receiving an academic undergraduate degree.

(2) "Field of study curriculum" means a set of courses that will satisfy the lower division requirements for a bachelor's degree in a specific academic area at a general academic teaching institution.

(3) "Faculty member" means a person who is employed full-time by an institution of higher education as a member of the faculty whose primary duties include teaching, research, academic service, or administration. However, the term does not include a person holding faculty rank who spends a majority of the person's time for the institution engaged in managerial or supervisory activities, including a chancellor, vice chancellor, president, vice president, provost, associate or assistant provost, or dean.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997. Amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1584, § 1, eff. June 19, 1999.

§ 61.822. Core Curriculum

(a) The board, with the assistance of advisory committees composed of representatives of institutions of higher education, shall develop a recommended core curriculum of at least 42 semester credit hours, including a statement of the content, component areas, and objectives of the core curriculum. At least a majority of the members of any advisory committee named under this section shall be faculty members of an institution of higher education. An institution shall consult with the faculty of the institution before nominating or recommending a person to the board as the institution's representative on an advisory committee.

(b) Each institution of higher education shall adopt a core curriculum of no less than 42 semester credit hours, including specific courses comprising the curriculum. The core curriculum shall be consistent with the common course-numbering system and with the statement, recommendations, and rules issued by the board. An institution may have a core curriculum of

other than 42 semester credit hours only if approved by the board.

(c) If a student successfully completes the 42-hour core curriculum at an institution of higher education, that block of courses may be transferred to any other institution of higher education and must be substituted for the receiving institution's core curriculum. A student shall receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred and may not be required to take additional core curriculum courses at the receiving institution unless the board has approved a larger core curriculum at the institution.

(d) A student who transfers from one institution of higher education to another without completing the core curriculum of the sending institution shall receive academic credit from the receiving institution for each of the courses that the student has successfully completed in the core curriculum of the sending institution. Following receipt of credit for these courses, the student may be required to satisfy further course requirements in the core curriculum of the receiving institution.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997. Amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1584, § 2, eff. June 19, 1999.

§ 61.823. Field of Study Curriculum

(a) The board, with the assistance of advisory committees composed of representatives of institutions of higher education, shall develop field of study curricula. Each advisory committee shall be equitably composed of representatives of institutions of higher education. Each university system or institution of higher education which offers a degree program for which a field of study curriculum is proposed shall be offered participation on the advisory committee for that particular field of study. At least a majority of the members of any advisory committee named under this section shall be faculty members of an institution of higher education. An institution shall consult with the faculty of the institution before nominating or recommending a person to the board as the institution's representative on an advisory committee.

(b) If a student successfully completes a field of study curriculum developed by the board, that block of courses may be transferred to a general academic teaching institution and must be substituted for that institution's lower division requirements for the degree program for the field of study into which the student transfers, and the student shall receive full academic credit toward the degree program for the block of courses transferred.

(c) A student who transfers from one institution of higher education to another without completing the field of study curriculum of the sending institution shall receive academic credit from the receiving institution for each of the courses that the student has successfully completed in the field of study curriculum of the sending institution. Following receipt of credit for these courses, the student may be required to satisfy further course requirements in the field of study curriculum of the receiving institution.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997. Amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1584, § 3, eff. June 19, 1999.

§ 61.824. Institutional Evaluations

Each institution shall review and evaluate the institution's core curriculum and applicable field of study curricula at intervals specified by the board and shall report the results of that review to the board.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997.

§ 61.825. Board Evaluations

The board shall develop criteria to evaluate the transfer practices of each institution of higher education and shall evaluate the transfer practices of each institution based on those criteria.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997.

§ 61.826. Dispute Resolution

(a) The board by rule shall adopt procedures to be followed by:

(1) institutions of higher education in resolving disputes concerning the transfer of lower division course credit; and

(2) the commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee in making a final determination concerning transfer of the course credit if the transfer is in dispute.

(b) Each institution of higher education shall publish in its course catalogs the procedures adopted by the board under Subsection (a).

(c) If an institution of higher education does not accept course credit earned by a student at another institution of higher education, that institution shall give written notice to the student and the other institution that the transfer of the course credit is denied. The two institutions and the student shall attempt to resolve the transfer of the course credit in accordance with board rules. If the transfer dispute is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student or the institution at which the credit was earned within 45 days after the date the student received written notice of the denial, the institution that denies the transfer of the course credit shall notify the commissioner of higher education of its denial and the reasons for the denial.

(d) The commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee shall make the

final determination about a dispute concerning the transfer of course credit and give written notice of the determination to the involved student and institutions.

(e) The board shall collect data on the types of transfer disputes that are reported and the disposition of each case that is considered by the commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997.

§ 61.827. Rules

The board is authorized to adopt rules implementing the provisions of this subchapter.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997.

§ 61.828. Concurrently Enrolled Students

A student concurrently enrolled at more than one institution of higher education shall follow the core curriculum or the field of study curriculum of the institution in which the student is classified as a degree-seeking student.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997.

§ 61.829. Effect on Other Policies

This subchapter does not affect the authority of an institution of higher education to adopt its own admission standards in compliance with this title or its own grading policies.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1016, § 1, eff. June 19, 1997.

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