

Full-time Enrollment Policy

Full-time Enrollment Requirements

A full-time degree-seeking graduate student must take at least 9 credit hours in the fall and spring semesters. A half-time load is defined as enrolled in at least 4.5 credit hours in fall and spring terms. During the summer term, full-time is 6 credit hours and half-time is 3 credit hours. There are two exceptions to this policy:

1. For master's students pursuing a thesis option, full-time enrollment is defined as 3 hours per semester [including summers, of only thesis hours (XXX 6971)], after completion of all coursework and until successful completion and defense of the thesis. Students enrolled in thesis hours simultaneously with coursework hours must be enrolled in a combined nine credit hours to be considered full time for the fall and spring semesters, or six credit hours to be enrolled full time in the summer semester.
2. For doctoral students who have passed the candidacy exam and are registered for doctoral dissertation (XXX 7980) or doctoral dissertation in practice (XXX 7987) hours only, full-time is 3 hours per semester, including summers, until successful completion and defense of the dissertation.

Special Considerations

One exception to this policy is for students pursuing the Clinical Psychology PhD program that requires a 12-month, full-time pre-doctoral internship (CLP 6949) in which registration for one hour per semester (for a total of three semesters) is also defined as full-time.

For international master's students on Curricular Practical Training (CPT) pursuing a thesis option, registration in 3 or more hours of thesis (XXX 6971) and 1 credit hour of Experiential Learning Internship (IDS 5947) is considered full-time enrollment. If the enrollment in 3 hours of thesis (XXX 6971) and 1 hour of Experiential Learning Internship (IDS 5947) is simultaneous with any other coursework, enrollment in a combined 9 credit hours is required to be considered full-time in fall and spring semesters, or 6 credit hours to be full time in the summer semester.

All international students on F or J visas must maintain full-time, degree-seeking status regardless of financial support received from the university. F and J visa holders should contact the UCF Global to ensure that their enrollment conforms to the full-time definition for their visa status. International students should not change their course schedule or drop classes without advisement from the UCF Global. All international students who enroll in less than 9 hours per term must submit to UCF Global a Reduced Course Load

Form that explains the nature of the reduced hours and must obtain approval from UCF Global (see <https://global.ucf.edu/> for Reduced Course Load Form). This requirement also applies to international students who are enrolled in less than 9 hours per term in thesis or dissertation hours.

Students who receive financial support from outside UCF and who have loan obligations are responsible for enrolling in the number of credit hours that meet the full-time or half-time criteria specified by the funding source. Enrollment certification is provided by the Registrar's Office based upon the UCF definition of full-time graduate status.

Students who do not satisfy these full-time enrollment requirements may have to start repaying student loans and will not qualify for graduate assistantships, fellowships or tuition support. Students receiving financial aid should refer to the Program Eligibility Charts on the Office of Student [Financial Assistance](#) website under "Receiving Aid" to determine their specific enrollment requirements.

Students receiving veteran's benefits should contact [Veteran's Affairs](#) for additional information about course loads.

Nondegree seeking students must be enrolled in 12 credit hours or more to be considered in full-time status.

Justification: UCF Global requires international F-1 students on Curricular Practical Training (CPT) to enroll in a required internship or practicum course through their major academic department or be academically recommended to enroll in Experiential Learning's internship course. If the internship opportunity is not required, the student must receive credit for the training. See <https://global.ucf.edu/international-students-scholars-and-professionals/employment/>.