

ACADEMIC LOAD

Policy Number: 221

Categorized: [Academic](#)

Responsible Office: Chief Academic Officer

Subject: Normal full-time load for credit students

Related Policies: [Academic Standing](#)

Procedures: See below.

Additional Information:

Effective Date:

Last Reviewed Date: 06/23/2020

1. Scope

This policy applies to all credit students.

2. Policy Statement

The normal academic load for students is 15-17 credits. The minimum full-time load is 12 credits and the normal maximum full-time load is 18 credits excluding College Success Skills (SDV 100 or 101). Students must have approval from the dean of students to carry an academic load of more than 18 credits.

Students placed on academic warning or academic probation may be required to take less than the normal course load.

3. Definitions

N/A

4. Procedures

- a. A student wishing to carry an academic load of more than 18 credits must have a 3.00 grade point average or higher on the last 12 credits or most recent semester of full-time enrollment completed at NOVA or another accredited college or university and the approval of the dean of students.
- b. In the case of students with considerable professional experience, successful completion of college-level training may substitute for the credit hour and GPA requirement. Approval for an overload based on professional training may be granted by the dean of students in consultation with the appropriate program head/assistant dean.

5. Authority

VCCS Policy 5.6.4 Academic Load