

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF  
THE REGISTRAR  
MANUAL OF ACADEMIC POLICIES & PROCEDURES

TITLE	NUMBER	PAGE	DATE OF INCEPTION
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & APPLICATION	R-23	1 of 2	August 28, 1985

### Application for Graduation

Students must submit an Application for Graduation by the deadline listed in the academic calendar.

### Major/Minor Requirements

- All students must declare a major to graduate.
- If the chosen major requires a minor, those requirements must also be met.
- Students with a double major are not required to complete a minor.

### Bachelor's Degree Requirements

To graduate with a bachelor's degree, a student must:

- Complete **120 credit hours**, which must include:
  - All Liberal Arts Core (LAC) requirements
  - All major and minor requirements (if applicable)
- Maintain a **minimum GPA of 2.00** overall, in the major, and in the minor.
- Developmental courses (e.g. ENGL 099 and MATH 099) do **not** count toward the 120 credit hours.

### Graduation with Honors:

- At least **60 credit hours** applied to the degree must be earned at Charleston Southern University (CSU).
- Only CSU coursework is used to calculate honors GPA.

### Graduate Program Requirements

To graduate from a graduate program, a student must have a **minimum 3.00 GPA**, including both core and specialization courses. See the Graduate Catalog for specific degree requirements.

### Residency Requirements

#### Baccalaureate Degree:

- A minimum of **12 upper-level (300/400) credit hours in the major** must be completed at CSU.
- For a **Bachelor of Technology**, at least **15 upper-level credit hours in a cognate** area must be completed at CSU.
- If a minor is required, at least **6 upper-level credit hours in the minor** must be earned at CSU.
- At least **31 of the last 41 credit hours**, including the required upper-level hours, must be completed at CSU.

#### Exception:

This "31 of the last 41" rule is waived for students in online programs, dual degrees, study abroad, or articulation/contracted programs, provided they earn at least 31 credit hours at CSU.

### Graduate Programs:

Residency and transfer credit rules are detailed in the Graduate Catalog.

### Graduation Substitution/Waiver

Course substitutions or waivers must be submitted according to **Policy R-6: Graduation Substitution/Waiver**.

### Catalog of Graduation Requirements

- Students must meet the graduation requirements from the catalog in effect at the time of their initial enrollment (matriculation).
- **Exceptions:**
  - Students entering the **Teacher Education** or **Nursing Program** must follow the catalog in effect when admitted into that program.
  - Students who are **readmitted after two or more consecutive semesters away** must follow the catalog in effect at the time of re-entry.
  - Students may request to use the **current catalog**, subject to approval by the Registrar.

### Special Exception:

Students readmitted with 18 or fewer credit hours remaining toward graduation (including residency) may continue using their original catalog, unless enrolled in professional programs like Nursing or Education, which may have updated certification or licensing requirements.

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By action of the Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Council on August 28, 1985 and revisions approved by the Provost on February 10, 1993, October 21, 1994, and June 12, 1997 and revisions approved by the Grad Council, curriculum Committee and VPAA on March 2010. Editorial corrections were made on August 4, 2003 by the Registrar, including updating the section “Catalog Requirements under Which A Student Will Graduate” to reflect current policy and practices. Revised November 14, 2017 by the Curriculum Committee. Revised November 16, 2017 by the Graduate Council. Revised by the University Registrar March 2021. Revised by the entire Faculty August 2024. Revised by the University Registrar and VPAA April 2025. Revised by the University Registrar September 2025.