

TO: Educational Policy Committee
FROM: Anneliese Kay Beswick
SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment: Scholastic Recognition, Graduation with Distinction
DISPOSITION: Educational Policy Committee for Discussion and Advancement to University Senate
REFERENCE: Purdue University Academic Regulations
RATIONALE: The current Graduation with Distinction policy, established 25 years ago, imposes restrictions on students who enter the university requiring fewer than 65 credit hours to be earned at Purdue.
 To promote greater fairness and equity for all students, this amendment proposes reducing the minimum number of credits to be earned at Purdue from 65 to 60. This adjustment ensures that all undergraduate students—including those transferring through a Transfer Single Articulation Pathway (TSAP)—may have the opportunity to graduate with distinction. This proposal is intended to modernize the policy and advance equity by providing all undergraduate students an equal opportunity to achieve Graduation with Distinction.
PROPOSAL: The Educational Policy Committee is requested to consider a proposal to modify the requirements for Graduation with Distinction, reducing the minimum number of credit hours required to be earned at Purdue University from 65 to 60. This revision updates a policy originally established in 1980 to better reflect the needs of today’s student population.
 The proposed change enhances inclusivity for transfer students—many of whom enter Purdue through a Transfer Single Articulation Pathway (TSAP), which requires 60 credits to be completed at Purdue. Additionally, it accommodates undergraduate students who have accumulated 60 credit hours or more through a combination of Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and/or dual-credit coursework.
 Reducing the requirement from 65 to 60 credits modernizes the policy and promotes equity across diverse student pathways, ensuring that all qualified students are afforded the opportunity to graduate with distinction.

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE AND LOCATION	MODIFIED LANGUAGE AND LOCATION
Academic Regulation	Academic Regulation
Scholastic Recognition	Scholastic Recognition

C: Graduation with Distinction	C: Graduation with Distinction
<p>C:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A candidate for the baccalaureate degree with distinction must have a minimum of 65 hours of credit earned at Purdue University included in the computation of the overall GPA. A candidate for an associate degree with distinction must have a minimum of 35 hours of credit earned at Purdue University included in the computation of the overall GPA. 2. The minimum overall GPA for graduation with distinction in each school shall be no less than the 90th percentile of the graduation indexes of the graduates in each school, for the spring semester, provided that the index is at least 3.30. The minimum overall GPA so determined in the spring for each school shall be applied for graduation with distinction for the subsequent summer session and fall semester. In administering this rule, all baccalaureate engineering graduates will be considered as one school. 3. Of those graduates who qualify for distinction under these rules for the spring semester, the three-tenths of the baccalaureate graduates having the highest overall GPA shall be designated as graduating with highest distinction, irrespective of the schools from which they graduate. The three-tenths of the spring associate degree graduates having the highest overall GPA will be designated as graduating with highest distinction. <p>The minimum overall GPAs so determined for graduation with highest distinction shall be applied for graduation with highest distinction for the subsequent summer session and fall semester.</p>	<p>C:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A candidate for the baccalaureate degree with distinction must have a minimum of 60 hours of credit earned at Purdue University included in the computation of the overall GPA. A candidate for an associate degree with distinction must have a minimum of 35 hours of credit earned at Purdue University included in the computation of the overall GPA. 2. The minimum overall GPA for graduation with distinction in each school shall be no less than the 90th percentile of the graduation indexes of the graduates in each school, for the spring semester, provided that the index is at least 3.30. The minimum overall GPA so determined in the spring for each school shall be applied for graduation with distinction for the subsequent summer session and fall semester. In administering this rule, all baccalaureate engineering graduates will be considered as one school. 3. Of those graduates who qualify for distinction under these rules for the spring semester, the three-tenths of the baccalaureate graduates having the highest overall GPA shall be designated as graduating with highest distinction, irrespective of the schools from which they graduate. The three-tenths of the spring associate degree graduates having the highest overall GPA will be designated as graduating with highest distinction. <p>The minimum overall GPAs so determined for graduation with highest distinction shall be applied for graduation with highest distinction for the subsequent summer session and fall semester.</p>

Committee Votes:

For

Antonia Barreto
Ashley Bellet
Casey Krusemark
Haley Oliver-Jischke (A)
Jeff Elliott (A)
Jeffery Stefancic (A)
Julia Chester
Meghan Bennett (S)
Monica Torres
PV Ramachandran
Paschal Amusuo (S)
Sheila Hurt (A)
Vincent Duffy

Against**Abstain****Absent**

Abdelfattah Nour
John Sheffield
Thomas Brush
Yuli Lyanda-Gellar
Steven Scott

(A)- Advisor

(S)- Student