



Part-Time Study in the University of California

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I. POLICY SUMMARY

This policy implements the "Policy on Part-Time Study in the University of California" adopted by the Academic Council on May 14, 1980. That Policy reads, in part:

"The University of California recognizes the legitimate need for part-time study. The University should be open to qualified students who for reasons of occupation, family responsibility, or health, are not able to attend full-time."

Students who qualify under this Policy are eligible for reductions in certain student charges.

II. DEFINITIONS

Part-time Student:

- A. For undergraduate students, a part-time student is a student who is approved to enroll for 10 units or fewer, or an equivalent number of courses, per quarter.
 - B. For graduate students, a part-time student is a student who is approved to enroll for one-half or less of the regular course load stipulated in [Academic Senate Regulation 702](#), or as otherwise defined by the campus Academic Senate.
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III. POLICY TEXT

A. General

1. Degree programs in the University may be open to Part-time Students wherever good educational reasons exist for so doing.
2. No Majors or other degree programs will be offered only for Part-time Students, except as specifically authorized by the Academic Senate.

B. Admissions and Enrollment

1. The same admission standards that apply to full-time students will apply to Part-time Students.
2. Approval for individual students to enroll on a part-time basis will be given for reasons of occupation, family responsibilities, or health.
3. Approval to enroll as a Part-time Student shall be given by the appropriate dean, upon recommendation by the department or program.

C. Fees and Salary Titles

1. Part-time Students will pay the full Student Services Fee and one-half of Tuition paid by full-time students, except in part-time professional degree programs covered by the [Policy on Self-Supporting Graduate Degree Programs \(September 30, 2020\)](#).
2. Nonresident Part-time Students will pay one-half of Nonresident Supplemental Tuition.
3. Part-time Graduate Students will be eligible for appointment, at the discretion of the graduate dean to salary titles requiring regular registration in graduate status, such as Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant. However, their appointments will be limited to no more than one-half the maximum appointment available to full-time students.

D. Part-Time Graduate Study and the Normative Time to Degree Policy

Prior to candidacy, part-time graduate students will acquire time to the degree under the Normative Time to Degree Policy at one-half the rate of full-time students for those quarters during which they are approved for part-time study. After advancement to candidacy, all graduate students shall be considered full-time under the Normative Time Policy.

IV. PROCEDURES

Each UC location may adopt local procedures addressing its implementation of this Policy, if necessary. All such procedures must be consistent with this Policy.

V. RELATED INFORMATION

[Academic Senate Regulation 702](#)

[Self-Supporting Graduate Degree Programs \(SSGPDP\) Policy](#)

[President's Letter to the Chancellors on the Systemwide Part-Time Policy and Professional Degree Programs](#)

VI. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does this policy apply to Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST)?

In a [letter dated July 30, 2021](#), and addressed to campus Chancellors and Vice Chancellors for Planning and Budget, President Drake confirmed that this policy should be interpreted to apply to Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) as well. Specifically, PDST should be reduced by half for students in PDST programs who qualify for reduced fees under this policy. (PDST did not exist when the policy was first issued in 1981.)

VII. REVISION HISTORY

April 29, 2022: The policy was reformatted into the standard University of California policy template and to meet Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. It was also revised to incorporate new names for certain student charges approved by the Regents in November 2010: the Regents approved changing the name of the Educational Fee to "Tuition," the name of the University Registration Fee to "the Student Services Fee," and the name of Nonresident Tuition to "Nonresident Supplemental Tuition," effective July 1, 2011. References to other policies were also updated, as appropriate, to reflect current University policies. In addition, a reference to the President's July 30, 2021 letter clarifying the application of the policy to Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition was added.

March 17, 1981: Initial establishment of this Policy.