Maximum and Minimum Credit Hours for Elder Law LL.M. Program and Maximum Time to Complete Degree

A. **Maximum Credit-Hour Load:** In his or her first fall semester, a student may take up to 10 credit hours. In other fall and spring semesters, a student may take up to 9 credit hours. During a summer session, a student may take up to 3 credit hours without special permission and up to 6 credit hours with the Program Director’s permission. In addition to these maximums, a student may audit one Elder Law LL.M. course per semester. The maximum load does not include an Elder Law LL.M. course that a student may audit. Deviations from these maximums may be granted by the Program Director, in consultation with the Associate Dean for Academics, only in extraordinary circumstances.

B. **Minimum Credit-Hour Load:** A student interested in taking fewer than 9 credit hours in a fall or spring semester must receive prior written approval from the Program Director. The Program Director may approve a student to take as few as 3 credit hours in a semester. This minimum load does not include an Elder Law LL.M. course that a student may audit. A student is not required to enroll in summer courses.

C. **Restricted to Elder Law LL.M. Courses:** An Elder Law LL.M. student may enroll only in Elder Law LL.M. course offerings.

D. **Maximum Time to Earn Degree:** Elder Law LL.M. students must complete the program of study within six years. The Academic Standards Committee may waive this time period in extraordinary circumstances. Any student who leaves the College may petition to return to complete his or her degree, provided that his or her actual return date is not more than two years from the last date classes were attended. The Academic Standards Committee may waive this time period in extraordinary circumstances.

E. **Financial Aid Implications:** Federal student aid requirements include regulations on issues such as minimum enrollment requirements and maximum times for degree completion. Thus, students should note that the terms “full time” and “part-time” as used above do not necessarily equate with “full time” and “half-time” as used in the College’s policy on Eligibility to Receive Financial Aid. Moreover, approval to complete the program over an extended period may result in a loss of aid eligibility before the program is completed. Please review the College policies on financial aid and consult with the Office of Student Financial Planning as needed for concerns regarding eligibility for financial aid.

**Cross-references:** Auditing Courses, Eligibility to Receive Financial Aid, Satisfactory Academic Progress.

*Faculty policy approved May 4, 2011.*