



Maximum J.D. Credit Hours

- A. Full-time J.D.-Only Students:** A full-time student pursuing only the J.D. degree may not enroll in more than 17 credit hours in a fall or spring semester. During the on-campus summer session, a full-time student pursuing only the J.D. degree may not enroll in more than 8 credit hours.
- B. Full-time Dual-Degree Students:** A full-time student in an approved dual-degree program may not enroll in more than 17 credit hours in a fall or spring semester, or more than 8 credit hours in an on-campus summer session. However, with the permission of the Associate Dean for Academics, a full-time student in an approved dual-degree program may enroll in 18 total credit hours in a fall or spring semester, or in 9 total credit hours during an on-campus summer session, if
- ❖ at least 2 credit hours the student is attempting that term are in courses not offered as part of the College of Law's curriculum but instead are offered by the other school participating in the dual-degree program *and*
 - ❖ at least 1 credit will not count toward the 88 credit hours required for the J.D. degree.
- C. Part-time Students:** A part-time student may not enroll in more than 11 credit hours in a fall or spring semester without the permission of the Associate Dean for Academics; in no case may the student enroll in more than 12 credit hours in that semester. During the on-campus summer session, a part-time student may not enroll in more than 7 credit hours without the permission of the Associate Dean for Academics; in no case may the student enroll in more than 8 credit hours that session.

Cross-references: Credit Overloads During Required Curriculum; Minimum Number of Classroom Credits Required for Graduation; J.D./M.B.A. Dual-Degree Program; Summer-Abroad Programs; Credits Taken at the Tampa Law Center; Auditing Courses.

Explanations and interpretations:

1. A student must complete 88 total credit hours to earn the J.D. degree.
2. American Bar Association Standard 304(e) states that a “law school shall not permit a student to be enrolled at any time in coursework that, if successfully completed, would exceed 20 percent of the total coursework required by that school for graduation.” In March 2010, the ABA’s Accreditation Committee issued a notice to law schools that the limit in Standard 304(e) is a strict one and that “rounding up” is not permitted. The Committee also advised law schools that a school may not allow the Dean or an Associate Dean to authorize a student to exceed the 20% limit.
3. For example, under this policy, if the Associate Dean for Academics grants permission to a full-time student in the J.D./M.B.A. dual-degree program to enroll in 15 credit hours in courses offered by the College of Law and 3 credit hours in a course offered by the School of Business Administration, no more than 2 credits from the course offered by the School of Business Administration could count toward the 88 credit hours required for the J.D. degree.