

9.4 Institutional credits for an undergraduate degree

At least 25 percent of the credit hours required for an undergraduate degree are earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree.

Compliance Judgment: In Compliance

Rationale

Policy and dissemination of requirements. For all baccalaureate degrees offered at the University of South Carolina Aiken, students must earn at least 25 percent of the credit hours required for the degree at USC Aiken. Further, the senior year of work (30 semester hours) must be completed in residence and at least half of the credits for a student’s major must be earned at the University. The [Academic Bulletin](#), [1] which is available online, informs students of this requirement.

Documentation of transferred credit. Transferred credits, the institution from where credits are transferred, and the semester when the credits were earned are documented in the student record and are displayed on an advisor/guidance form in *Degree Works* and on the student’s transcript. Figure 9.4 provides an illustrative example of the workflow with links to the appropriate documentation that is created when a student transfers credits.

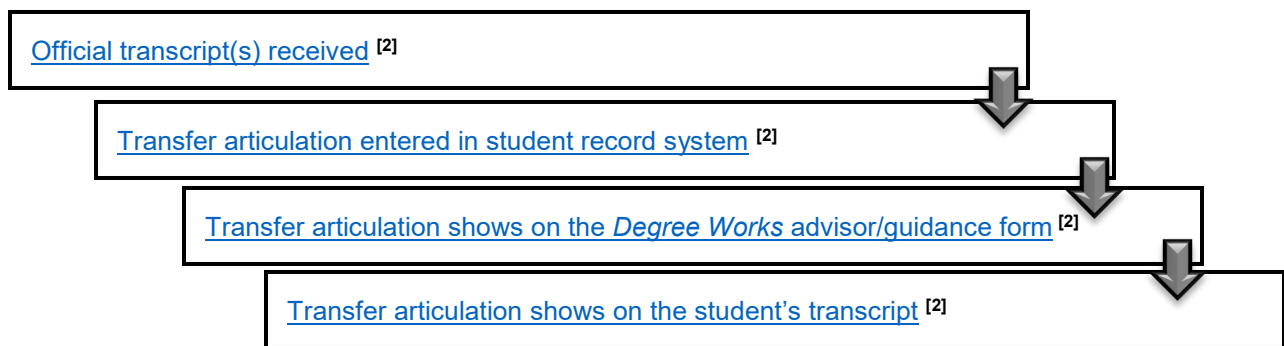


Figure 9.4. Workflow of documented transfer credits with links to illustrative example

Policy Assurance. To ensure compliance with this policy, students wishing to receive a degree from the University must complete a degree application in the Office of the Registrar by the published deadline for the semester in which they anticipate

completion of degree requirements. When the form is complete, the Registrar will attach a printout of the student's academic work so that the student can take the application and the academic record to his or her advisor for review. After the initial review by the advisor, the form is given to the respective department chair or school dean who verifies that the student has met degree requirements, pending satisfactory performance on any course work to be completed that semester.

Tables 9.4 shows the number of graduating baccalaureate students who fall below and above the lower quartile of USC Aiken credits completed for baccalaureate degrees for each semester over the past two years. These data illustrate compliance with the standard for the past six semesters; no students awarded a degree fell in the bottom quartile.

Table 9.4. Number of Students within Quartiles of USC Aiken Credits Completed for Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded

Semester degrees conferred	Total number of degrees awarded	Credits completed for baccalaureate degrees in residency			
		Less than 25%	25%-49%	50%-74%	75%-100%
Spring 2020	298	0	52	45	201
Fall 2019	198	0	48	49	101
Summer 2019	74	0	2	17	55
Spring 2019	292	0	8	45	239
Fall 2018	189	0	4	44	141
Summer 2018	59	0	3	10	46

Supporting Documentation

1. [Academic Bulletin: Residency and Degree Completion Policies](#)
2. [Illustrative example of transferred credit](#)