

Baccalaureate Degree Programs: Reducing Total Units Required

In July 2000, the Board of Trustees amended Title 5 to reduce the minimum total units required for a bachelor's degree to 120 semester units (180 quarter units) and to require campuses to monitor degree requirements.

§ 40508. The Bachelor's Degree: Total Units.

Each campus shall establish and maintain a monitoring system to ensure that justification is provided for all program requirements that extend the baccalaureate unit requirement beyond 120 semester units. As of the fall term of the 2014-15 academic year, no baccalaureate degree programs shall extend the unit requirement beyond 120 semester units, with the exception of the Bachelor of Architecture, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Fine Arts, and Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degrees. The Chancellor may authorize exceptions to system or campus requirements for degree programs. In fulfillment of this regulation, the Chancellor after consultation with discipline faculty and other appropriate individuals may require adjustments to program requirements in order to achieve the 120-unit maximum.

A campus may establish a higher unit requirement for certain majors to ensure that students have achieved the knowledge and skills ordinarily expected of graduates in those fields, but new programs must be approved by the Chancellor's Office, and the expectation is that most programs will be designed to allow students to complete the degree with no more than 120 units.