

Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies
Resolution 2020-2021A
Resolution to Retire Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 194,
“Transfer Credit for Master's Degrees”

Approved by CGPSP:	January 20, 2021
Faculty Senate waived right to comment:	November 20, 2020
Staff Senate waived right to comment:	November 13, 2020
Graduate Student Assembly waived right to comment:	December 7, 2020
Student Government Association waived right to comment:	December 21, 2020
First reading by University Council:	February 1, 2021
Approved by University Council:	February 15, 2021
Approved by the President:	February 15, 2021
Effective Date:	Upon Approval

Whereas, existing university policy allows graduate students to transfer up to 50% of the course work on their plan of study from regionally-accredited institutions; and,

Whereas, Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 194 stipulated that each Master's degree program be required to request program-wide permission from the Graduate School to allow up to 50% of the courses on the plan of study to be transferred from other institutions for programmatic reasons; and,

Whereas, the use of any transfer credit on an individual plan of study is already subject to the review and approval of a student's advisory committee, the Graduate Program Director, the Department Head and/or College Dean, and the Dean of the Graduate School; and,

Whereas, each Master's degree program has the multiple mechanisms noted above whereby both the academic rigor of the program and the integrity of Virginia Tech's role as the degree-granting institution are safeguarded;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Presidential Policy Memorandum 194 be retired and that the existing general policies governing transfer credit (described under the heading "Transfer Credit" in the Graduate Policies and Procedures and Course Catalogue) will remain in force.

Transfer Credit for Master's Degrees

Policy Memorandum No. 194

Approved by the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies: April 7, 1999

Approved by University Council: May 3, 1999

Approved by President: May 3, 1999

Effective: Spring Semester 2000

The University Council, on recommendation of the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies approved a resolution concerning transfer credit for Master's Degrees.

Following is the text of the resolution as adopted by University Council.

Whereas, existing policy allows graduate students to transfer up to 50% of the course work on their plan of study from certain Virginia schools; and,

Whereas, for doctoral students this provision is essentially redundant with the general allowance of up to 42 hours of transferred work; and,

Whereas, the use of 50% transfer credit on the plan of study may compromise Virginia Tech's role as the degree granting institution and thus allowing master's degree students to use 50% transfer credit is inappropriate as a general policy; and,

Whereas, certain specific master's degree programs may have programmatic reasons to allow up to 50% transfer credit for their students;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the existing general policies governing transfer credit (described under the heading "Transfer Credit" in the Graduate Policies and Procedures and Course Catalogue) will remain in force, that the policy allowing transfer from Virginia Schools of up to 50% of the work on the plan of study for a graduate degree be revoked and the statement of that policy be removed from the graduate catalogue, and that the following language be added to the end of the section on transfer credit:

"Individual master's degree programs may, on approval of the Graduate School, be granted permission to allow up to 50% of the courses on the plan of study to be transferred from other institutions for programmatic reasons. Requests for such permission must be submitted in writing by the program to the Dean of the Graduate School, justifying the program's need for an extended allowance of transfer credit and suggesting what guidelines and limits would be appropriate. Requests are not made to grant exceptions for individual students. Requests will be reviewed by the Graduate Curriculum Committee, which will advise the Graduate School regarding action on such requests."

These changes being effective for students enrolling for the first time in or after the Spring semester of 2000; moreover, for existing programs which can document a history of regular, legitimate use of the 50% transfer allowance from Virginia Schools, the Graduate School may, at its discretion, accept the program's history in lieu of a written request.

PET:sws

President's Policy Memorandum

URL: <http://purl.vt.edu/vtdocs/policies/ppm194>



Staff Senate

<http://www.staffsenate.vt.edu/>

2020-2021

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November 13, 2020

To: Vice President of Policy and Governance

The Staff Senate Committee on Policy and Issues has reviewed and approves CGPSP Resolution 2020-2021A, "Resolution to Retire Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 194, Transfer Credit for Master's Degrees,". We have no comment.

Thank you,

LaTawnya Burleson, Chair Staff Senate Policies and Issues Committee