



### University Policy Impact Statement

Date Sept. 2, 2008 Check One:  Revision of Existing Policy  New Policy

Policy Number (If known) \_\_\_\_\_ Policy Name Baccalaureate Degree Requirements

Originator(s) Graduation and Retention Task Force, Enrollment Management

**Justification for Proposed Changes or for New Policy (Attach additional sheet if necessary)**

1. All but three of EKU's benchmarks require between 120-124 credit hours.
  2. Murray State University requires 120 hours.
  3. A number of states are setting the maximum hours at 120 and 124.
  4. Some EKU degrees require 25-45 hours in free electives.
- (Continues on attached sheet.)

**Consistency with EKU's Mission and Strategic Plan, Other Policies, and Related External Documents**

Cite relevant official statements from EKU or external sources.

The proposed change honors EKU's "most central core value" of student success by encouraging retention and graduation.

**Impact on the University**

(1) Identify resources (human, financial, physical, operational, technological, other) needed to implement and maintain compliance; (2) Identify changes to EKU's culture and/or behaviors that may be involved.

No significant resources are needed to implement the policy change and maintain compliance.

**List Key Stakeholders who have been consulted. Indicate action taken and the date it was taken. Attach additional page if necessary.**

<u>Provost Council</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Date <u>March 28, 2008</u>
<u>Council on Academic Affairs</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Date <u>10/16/08 Approved</u>
<u>Faculty Senate</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Date _____
<u>Provost Council</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Date _____
<u>President</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Date _____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Date _____

Executive Policy Group Only

Board Approval Required

## Baccalaureate Degree Requirements

### Justification for Proposed Changes or for New Policy (continued from page one)

5. Financial indebtedness becomes a factor for seniors, especially as tuition costs continue to rise.
6. Degree programs that wish to use the 120 hours would have that option but degree programs that want or need more hours would still have the ability to require more hours. There would be no need for special permission to go above 120 hours.

## Baccalaureate Degree Requirements (Revision)

Current wording: (Pg. 48 current catalog)

To qualify for a baccalaureate degree, students must satisfy the following requirements:

3. Complete a minimum of 128 semester credit hours, with at least 43 hours at the 300 level or above.

Proposed wording: (Effective Fall 2009)

3. Complete a minimum of 120 semester credit hours, with at least 43 hours at the 300 level or above. Because degree requirements may differ, students should refer to the Catalog for the requirements for specific programs.