Graduate Program Manual
Operating Policy and Procedure

SON OP

40.442: Age of Earned Credits in Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program of Study

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Age of Earned Credits in MSN Program of Study policy is to set a time limit in which academic credits may be applied toward the completion of the MSN degree as specified in the TTUHSC MSN Curriculum plan. The policy provides a time limiting framework to promote ongoing progression of the student through the MSN program and successful completion of all requirements and earning the MSN degree. This policy ensures that course credits earned and applied toward completion of the MSN degree are relevant and reflect the contemporary health care/nursing practice environment. The policy is consistent with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s Essentials of Masters Education in Nursing (2011).

REVIEW: All policies in the Graduate Program Manual shall be reviewed by the Associate Dean/Department Chairs of the Graduate Programs by September 1 in the even numbered years in collaboration with the Graduate Program Committees. Final approval of the Graduate Program Manual is by the Dean.

POLICY/PROCEDURE

1.0 Policy
Graduate Program faculty members recognize students enrolled in the MSN program are nursing professionals who are often working fulltime, carrying the responsibilities of upper level management, direct patient care and educational program delivery across the spectrum of contemporary health care. To accommodate the needs of students who require a Program of Study extension and to ensure timely completion of MSN degree requirements based on completion of course work relevant to the contemporary health care/nursing practice environment, an age of coursework time limits will be applied to credits applied to the MSN degree.

2.0 Procedure

Approved: MSN Committee: 06.2014
2.1. Any earned credit for a TTUHSC or TTU course applied toward the completion of the MSN degree will be no older than five (5) years from the date of the expected date of graduation. The age of the earned credit will be determined by date of completion of the course.

2.2. Transfer credit earned from other universities which will be applied toward the MSN degree will be no older than ten (10) years from the expected date of graduation. The age of the transfer credits will be determined in the same manner as determining the age of TTUHSC or TTU credits.

2.3. During the student’s progression through the Program of Study if any earned credits being applied toward the MSN degree become ineligible due to date of completion to be applied toward the completed course of study, the student will be expected to repeat the course, paying the tuition and fees set by TTUHSC at the time of registration.

2.4. Students will be allowed to repeat MSN courses to replace previously earned course credits too old to be included in the course study; however, students will be admitted on a space available basis after the current cohort of MSN students have registered for the course.

2.5. Students who have three (3) or more earned courses (TTUHSC/TTU or transferred credits) that have become too dated to be eligible to meet MSN degree requirements by the expected date of graduation will be academically dismissed from the program.

2.6. Upon admission to the MSN program and during the development of the degree plan, students will be advised about the time limits on TTUHSC/TTU and transfer courses applied toward completion of the degree.