Instructional Units

Calculating Instructional Units for High School Courses

Rule 10 and Rule 14 provide a definition of instructional units which says:

"Instructional unit means 15 clock hours (900 minutes) of classroom instruction in a course offered in the secondary school. As an example, a course which meets for 50 minutes a day for 180 days generates 10 instructional units."

Instructional units should be computed to the nearest one-tenth. **(Passing time between classes cannot be counted in calculating instructional units.)**

The formula for computing instructional unit is:

Total Instructional time in minutes ÷ 900 minutes = Instructional Units

OR

(Length of class period x Number of class sessions) ÷ 900 minutes = Instructional Units

Example (A):
Length of class period = 50 minutes
Number of class periods = 180 days
One instructional unit = 15 clock hours (or 900 minutes)

(50 x 180) ÷ 900 = 10 instructional units

Example (B):
Length of class period = 47 minutes
Number of class periods = 177 days
One instructional unit = 15 clock hours (or 900 minutes)

(47 x 177) ÷ 900 = 9.2 instructional units

Credit hours and instructional units are not necessarily computed the same way, although they may be the same in many instances. Instructional units are a measurement of **time** for a course; whereas credit hours are a measurement of **credit** awarded to students for completing a course.

Rule 10 and Rule 14 provide that the number of **credit hours** given for a course may be less than the number of instructional units and may be increased up to 25 percent above the number of instructional units.

INSTRUCTIONAL UNIT CHART

Minutes Per Class	Number of Class Sessions							
	30	40	45	60	90	135	175	180
30	1.0	1.3	1.5	2.0	3.0	4.5	5.8	6
35	1.2	1.6	1.8	2.3	3.5	5.3	6.8	7
40	1.3	1.8	2.0	2.7	4.0	6.0	7.8	8
45	1.5	2.0	2.3	3.0	4.5	6.8	8.8	9
50	1.7	2.2	2.5	3.3	5.0	7.5	9.7	10
55	1.8	2.4	2.8	3.7	5.5	8.3	10.7	11
60	2.0	2.7	3.0	4.0	6.0	9.0	11.7	12
65	2.2	2.9	3.3	4.3	6.5	9.8	12.6	13

NOTE: In computing instructional units, a school can count each course **only once,** even though it may be provided several times on a school schedule.

RESOURCES

Rule 10 (*Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*) August 1, 2015
Rule 14 (*Regulations and Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools*) July 28, 2012

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