

**Report on the history of the 122-credit graduation requirement at CCSU**  
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- Before 1971, the graduation requirement for CCSC programs other than teacher education was **128 credits, including 4 credits of Physical Education**. It is not clear at this point why the number 128 was chosen; however, it should be noted that 128 is 16 times 8, so this represents a 16-credit average load over 8 semesters. The requirement for Teacher Education program was **132 credits, including 4 credits of Physical Education**.
- At the time, Physical Education general education courses were 1 credit each, and students were therefore expected to take 4 semesters of Physical Education.
- On April 28, 1971, the Division of Physical Education and Athletics, which contained two departments of Physical Education (Women's Physical Education and Men's Physical Education), voted to reduce the Physical Education general education requirement from 4 to 2 credits. The reasons given were a lack of space and a lack of staff.
- On October 7, 1971, the Curriculum Committee approved the reduction of the Physical Education general education requirement.
- On October 16, 1971, the Faculty Senate approved the reduction of the requirement. At that meeting, a motion was made to completely eliminate the Physical Education general education requirement, but it was defeated.
- As a result, the graduation requirement for teacher education programs was reduced to **130 credits**, which is where it stands today. The graduation requirement for other programs was reduced to **126 credits**.
- On October 26, 1971, Senator Michael K. Becker of the Department of History proposed a bill to reduce the number of required credits for graduation in ALL baccalaureate programs to 120 credits. His bill would also have eliminated the 2-credit Physical Education requirement, and would have made Student Teaching worth 0 credits (although it would still have been required of students in teacher certification programs).
- On November 8, 1971, the Faculty Senate Steering Committee referred Senator Becker's bill to the Curriculum Committee.
- On December 1, 1971, the Curriculum Committee considered Senator Becker's proposition. The action taken was to have the Chair of the Curriculum Committee, George Muirhead, appoint an ad hoc committee to study the proposition. The committee became known as the Ad Hoc Committee on Graduation Requirements, and the proposal known as the Becker Resolution.
- On February 1, 1972, both departments of Physical Education approved a two-page position paper, called "The Role of Physical Education in General Education at Central Connecticut State College". In that paper, they defended the need for a physical education general education requirement, thus

opposing the part of the Becker Resolution calling for the elimination of that requirement.

- In February 1972, the Ad Hoc Committee on Graduation Requirements made its recommendation to the Curriculum Committee. The ad hoc committee rejected the elimination of the physical education requirement, and the elimination of credit for Student Teaching. The committee also rejected the lowering of the number of credits required in certifiable teacher education programs to 120. However, the committee approved the reduction of the required of credits in B. A. and non-certifiable B. S. programs to “**120 Sem. Hrs. plus any Physical Education requirements**”. The degree requirements for certifiable teacher education programs were stated as: 128 Sem. Hrs. plus any Physical Education requirements.
- On March 1, 1972, the Curriculum Committee amended the Ad Hoc Committee on Graduation Requirements report, by changing “120 Sem. Hrs. plus any Physical Education requirements” to “**122 Sem. Hrs.**”, and “128 Sem. Hrs. plus any Physical Education requirements” to “130 Sem. Hrs.”; the report was approved as amended.
- The Curriculum Committee report was then approved by the Faculty Senate and by CCSC President James.
- In addition, on March 1, 1972, the Curriculum Committee also approved a reduction of the major requirements for the B. A. program for registered nurses from 43 credits to 39 credits. So it seems that, in at least one case, the 4 credits that were subtracted from the B. A. graduation requirements were subtracted from the *major*, rather than the minor, general education or general electives.

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