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Trustees Approve Faculty Recommendation to Streamline Graduation Requirement, Improve Affordability

Winthrop University

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Trustees Approve Faculty Recommendation to Streamline Graduation Requirement, Improve Affordability

Quick Facts

- The faculty recommendation streamlines the minimum number of hours required for a bachelor's degree from 124 to 120.
- Winthrop's Board of Trustees unanimously approved the minimum hours resolution at its May 9 quarterly meeting.
- The resolution had the backing of Winthrop's Academic Council, Faculty Conference and provost, in addition to the president.



President Williamson

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Beginning in the fall, Winthrop University students will be more likely to graduate on time, as a result of a **faculty recommendation** streamlining the **minimum number of hours required for a bachelor's degree from 124 to 120**.

"By encouraging students to graduate on time, we help them and their families keep the cost of a Winthrop education as low as possible," said **Winthrop President Jamie Comstock Williamson**.

The university's accrediting body, the **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges**, requires baccalaureate degrees to have at least 120 credit hours. Many of Winthrop's peer institutions use the 120 credit hour mark as well.

Williamson noted that even a small reduction in the number of required hours can **encourage degree attainment** and **increase affordability for students and their families**. Affordability has been a key priority for Williamson since she became Winthrop's 10th president in 2013.

Winthrop's Board of Trustees **unanimously approved the minimum hours resolution** at its May 9 quarterly meeting. The resolution had the backing of Winthrop's Academic Council, Faculty Conference and provost, in addition to the president.

For more information, please contact **Judy Longshaw**, news and media services manager, at 803/323-2404 or email longshawj@winthrop.edu.

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