

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Request to Change Semester Credit Hours

Directions: An institution shall use this form to request a change in the number of semester credit hours (SCH) required for a degree program already on the institution's program inventory in accordance with Coordinating Board Rules, Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Section 5.55 – Revisions to Approved Programs.

Options:

- 1) Revisions that **reduce** the number of SCH require notification of change and affirmation that the reduction does not fall below the minimum requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, program accreditors, and licensing bodies, if applicable.
- 2) Revisions that **increase** the number of SCH require detailed written documentation describing the compelling academic reason for the increase in the number of required hours.

NOTE: No request or notification is needed if revisions to the degree program curriculum do not result in a change in SCH.

Options 1 and 2 require the signature of the Provost or Chief Academic Officer.

Please submit *Request to Change Semester Credit Hour* via the Online Submission Portal:

<https://www1.thecb.state.tx.us/apps/proposals/>

Information: Contact the Division of Workforce, Academic Affairs and Research at 512/427-6200.

Administrative Information

1. Institution:

Texas A&M University

2. Program Name – *As it appears on the Coordinating Board's program inventory (e.g., Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in Accounting):*

Master of Jurisprudence in Intellectual Property

3. Program CIP Code:

22.0212.00 (Intellectual Property Law)

4. Contact Person: *Provide contact information for the person who can answer specific questions about the program.*

Name: **Aric Short**
Title: **Vice Dean and Professor**
E-mail: **ashort@law.tamu.edu**
Phone: **(817) 212-4114**

Notification/Request for Change in Semester Credit Hours (SCH):

Current SCH: **24**

Proposed SCH: **30**

Implementation Date: **Fall 2016**

Complete Option 1 or 2 as appropriate

Option 1: Reduction in Semester Credit Hours

Is the change in the number of SCH compatible with the requirements of accreditation for the program?

a. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

YES NO

b. Program Accreditor(s)

YES NO NA

Name of Program Accreditor: _____

c. Licensing Body(ies)

YES NO NA

Name of Licensing Body(ies): _____

Option 2: Increase in Semester Credit Hours

Provide detailed documentation, such as changes in accrediting agency or licensing body requirements, workforce needs, or academic professional standards and needs, describing a compelling reason for the change in the number of SCH:

The School of Law requests a change in the required semester credit hours (SCH) of its approved Master of Jurisprudence (M.Jur.) in Intellectual Property (IP) degree from 24 to 30 hours. This degree program has not yet been implemented and is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2016.

Following additional evaluation, the School of Law has determined that 30 SCH are necessary to achieve the academic goals of the program. The M.Jur. in IP degree is designed for professionals who seek legal training to advance their existing careers or open up new career opportunities. M.Jur. in IP students will enroll in existing Juris Doctor (J.D.) law school courses that match their career goals. Because M.Jur. in IP students will not have completed all of the traditional first-year J.D. courses, it will be important to provide them sufficient background and contextual instruction in each of their classes. The additional 6 SCH will allow for that foundational instruction while also providing each M.Jur. in IP student sufficient flexibility to explore a chosen subject area deeply.


The requested change from 24 to 30 SCH also brings this degree program in line with existing Master's level programs at Texas A&M University. We do not anticipate any significant change to the costs of the M.Jur. in IP program associated with this required change.

Signature of Compliance

I hereby certify that all of the above changes have been approved in accordance with the procedures outlined in Coordinating Board Rules, Chapter 5, Subchapter C, Section 5.55.

Provost/Chief Academic Officer

Date

Approved by G.C.
 8-3-15