

Policy Number	UME.CU.104
Policy Title	Additional Courses Policy and Guidelines
Effective Date	07/23/2018
Last Revision Date (if any)	09/16/2025
Scope	All undergraduate medical students
LCME Element(s) (if any)	

Additional Courses Policy and Guidelines

I. PURPOSE

Perelman School of Medicine (PSOM) students can register for University of Pennsylvania (Penn) courses, with no additional tuition charges, according to the following policy and guidelines.

II. SCOPE

All undergraduate medical students

III. POLICY

To enroll in additional courses, students must be actively enrolled in the MD curriculum (not on a leave of absence or short-term break, or in a scholarly/research year). Students must also be paying MD tuition as part of their matriculation status (not just fees-only).

Students are limited to enroll in 3 additional courses between matriculation and graduation. All additional courses must be credit bearing (CU). Additional courses are generally not applied toward requirements to earn the MD degree. All Penn course requirements must be successfully completed, and a passing grade must be earned. Students cannot audit a class.

Students may not take more than 2 CUs in 1 semester, or 1 CU in the summer between semesters. Only PSOM courses (Bioethics, Epidemiology, Health Policy Research, Translational Research, Public Health, etc.) may be taken during the summer.

Students who wish to take an additional course that conflicts with scheduled, required MD courses must receive permission from both the Office of Curriculum and the Office of the Registrar.

MD/PhD students need to follow additional requirements which can be found here:

<https://www.med.upenn.edu/mstp/addl-coursework.html>.

All Penn add and drop deadlines must be adhered to - check the Penn calendar for deadlines:

<http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/3yearcal.html>.

Failure to comply with any of these guidelines may result in a student being responsible for Penn course tuition. The tuition charge for 1 CU is typically between \$5,000 to \$7,000 and varies by program/school.

IV. PROCESS/PROCEDURE

Course Registration Process:

The Penn course catalogue can be found [here](#). Once a student has decided on a course (and has received permission, if needed), reach out to the [PSOM Registrar](#) to be officially enrolled.

Prior to seeking enrollment in a Penn course outside of the MD curriculum, students with current or past designations of Academic Watch/Warning must seek approval from the [Associate Dean for Student Success and Professional Development](#).

V. POLICY AUTHOR(S)

Members of the 2019 Policy Writing Committee (original)
Office of the Vice Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education
PSOM Office of Financial Services
PSOM Registrar

VI. REFERENCES

[MSTP Additional Courses Policy](#)
[Penn Academic Calendar](#)
[Penn Course Catalogue](#)

VII. GOVERNING BODY

Module Leaders (original)
Undergraduate Medical Education Committee

VIII. POLICY HISTORY

Date	Change
07/23/2018	Created & Approved
02/12/2020	Revised
11/06/2020	Revised
09/16/2025	Revised