



INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY  
School of Medicine

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August 21, 2015

(corrected October 26, 2015 – changes to original request are highlighted)

To the members of the GAC;

This is a request to review the Indiana University Medical Dosimetry Graduate Certificate program to include the following changes and clarifications:

1. The program is currently listed in the Graduate School Bulletin as a 23-24 credit hour program. The original proposed program had 24 credits and was approved by the GAC in 2009. The courses in the program were all approved by the GAC except for a 1 credit hour course, RAON D702. As such, the program has existed as a 23 credit hour program since 2009. Program officials request that the GAC recognize this inconsistency and all of its graduates to date as having fully met the requirements for the certificate by completing the 23 credit hours.
2. In February, 2014 a request was submitted through OneStart/CARMin system to modify course RAON D701. On February 6, 2014 the request was acknowledged by Dezra Despain as having been successfully submitted. Program officials have not received confirmation that the GAC reviewed the request and are now requesting either 1) confirmation that the request was reviewed and approved, or 2) that the proposed modification be reviewed and approved at this time. The proposed changes to this course are provided in an attachment to this request for review.
3. We request that the credit hours for the following courses be increased. In our original proposal, credit hours were based on the calculated number of contact minutes for didactic/lab courses and clinical minutes for practicum courses. Since 2009, we have found that we are spending more time with the students and the students are spending more time in the clinic than originally anticipated in order to achieve the outlined objectives of the course. The overall number of credits required for program completion is being requested to increase from 23 credit hours to 29 credit hours.
  - a. RAON D601
    - i. Requested increase: 2 credit hours to 3 credit hours
    - ii. Rationale:
      1. Anticipated contact time in proposal = 1440 min/semester
      2. Actual current calculated time = 4095 min/semester
  - b. RAON D602
    - i. Requested increase: 1 credit hour to 2 credit hours
    - ii. Rationale:
      1. Anticipated contact time in proposal = 900 min/semester
      2. Actual current calculated time = 3600 min/semester
  - c. RAON D606 (Clinical Practicum)
    - i. Requested increase: 1 credit hour to 2 credit hours.
    - ii. Rationale

1. Anticipated clinical time in proposal = 3350 min/semester
  2. Actual current calculated time = 5670 min/semester
- d. RAON D703 (Clinical Practicum)
- i. Requested increase: 6 credit hours to 8 credit hours.
  - ii. Rationale
    1. Anticipated clinical time in proposal = 20,160 min/semester
    2. Actual current calculated time = 30,240 min/semester
- e. RAON D704 (Clinical Practicum)\*
- i. Requested increase: 3 credit hours to 4 credit hours.
  - ii. Rationale
    1. Anticipated clinical time in proposal = 10,180 min/semester
    2. Actual current calculated time = 12,600 min/semester

4. With all of the credit hour increases granted by the Curriculum Committee in October, 2015. Students currently enrolled in the IU Medical Dosimetry Graduate Certificate program will be earning a total of 26 credits. As such, this request for changes to the required number of credits can be summarized as follows:

- a. Classes graduating 2015 and earlier: 23 credits
- b. Class graduating 2016: 26 credits
- c. Classes graduating 2017 and later: 29 credits

\*Granting the request specifically to increase the number of credits granted for RAON D704 would have a significant positive impact for both students and officials. RAON D704 is the only course that is offered to the students during Summer Session I (the last semester prior to graduation). During Summer Session I, as can be calculated from the time spent in the clinic, the enrolled students are in the clinic equivalent to full time workers (~40 hours/week). At 3 credits, students do not qualify for financial aid and program officials are annually working with the financial aid office annually to make exceptions for these students. Every year, program officials have been successful in working with the financial aid office to re-classify these students such that they are eligible for financial aid. However, this is a very time consuming and stressful process.

Program officials feel that all requests for increases in credit hours described above are appropriate and very much appreciate the thoughtful consideration of the GAC to granting requests 1., 2. and 3. described above.

Please let us know if more information is needed or if additional steps are required to help expedite the review process.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

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Director, Indiana University Medical Dosimetry Graduate Certificate Program

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