EXISTING RULE

1.8 A full-time graduate student is defined as one who is registered for nine semester hours during a fall or spring semester or six hours in a summer semester. Full-time enrollment for federal financial aid is always defined as 9 semester credit hours, including the summer term (all sessions combined). A Q grade or W grade does not count toward the certification of enrollment status. During his or her last semester prior to graduation, if a graduate student is enrolled at Texas A&M in all remaining hours needed to complete his or her degree, has applied for graduation and does not hold a graduate assistantship, he or she may be certified as a full-time student for that final semester even though he or she may be enrolled in less than nine semester hours during a fall or spring semester, or six hours in a summer semester. Students participating in student teaching, internships, and cooperative education pro-gra ms who are enrolled in less than nine semester hours during a fall or spring semester or six hours during a summer semester may be eligible to be certified as a full-time student with the approval of the Dean of the College or his or her designee. These certifications based on exceptions might not be used to qualify for Federal Financial Aid.

RULE WITH PROPOSED CHANGES

1.8 A full-time graduate student is defined as one who is registered for nine semester hours during a fall or spring semester or six hours in a summer semester. Full-time enrollment for federal financial aid is always defined as 9 semester credit hours, including the summer term (all sessions combined). A Q grade or W grade does not count toward the certification of enrollment status. During his or her last semester prior to graduation, if a graduate student is enrolled at Texas A&M in all remaining hours needed to complete his or her degree, has applied for graduation and does not hold a graduate assistantship, he or she may be certified as a full-time student for that final semester even though he or she may be enrolled in less than nine semester hours during a fall or spring semester, or six hours in a summer semester. Students participating in student teaching, internships, and cooperative education programs who are enrolled in less than nine semester hours during a fall or spring semester or six hours during a summer semester may be eligible to be certified as a full-time student with the approval of the Dean of the College or his or her designee. These certifications based on exceptions might not be used to qualify for Federal Financial Aid.

JUSTIFICATION:
This change is consistent with the wording in Rule 1.7 concerning undergraduate students and certification based on exceptions. The rule is the same for undergraduate and graduate students.

PROPOSED BY:
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COMMENTS:
Approved by Student Rules and Regulations Committee on 1/18/2013
Approved by the Faculty Senate on 2/11/13
Approved by the President on 3/6/13