

# 15 to Take Flight **FAQs**



## **Q:** Why should I take 15 credit hours per semester?

**A:** Start with the end in sight. You need to successfully complete 120 credit hours (roughly 40 courses) to graduate. To graduate in four years (eight semesters), 15 credit hours per semester will get you to your destination. Of course, this is the recommendation. It is not an absolute rule. You can still stay on course with 12 credit hours for the Fall and Spring semesters and six credit hours during the summer to earn 30 credit hours in a year.

## **Q:** What's the big deal if I want to take six or more years to complete my degree?

**A:** Completing your degree in more than four years will cost you more. You pay student fees every semester you are enrolled, regardless of the number of credits you are taking. For Fall 2024, the student fees for the semester is \$624. If you take six years to graduate, you pay at least \$2,496 in additional fees. Paying less in fees is just one financial strategy that saves time and money.

## **Q:** What are the academic benefits of taking 15 credit hours?

**A:** Enrolling in a full course load of 15 credits helps you maintain academic momentum, making steady progress through your program and avoiding delays. It may also open opportunities in your upper-level program coursework that can make you career ready, like engaging in internships, undergraduate research, or study abroad. It may also allow you to explore minors, certificates, or continue to progress even if you change your major without delaying graduation.

## Q: How can taking 15 credits impact my future?

**A:** By completing your degree on time, you can enter the job market faster and begin your income-earning career sooner. Not entering the workforce earlier results in the loss of potential income.



Scan the QR code to visit the Undergraduate Advising web page for information

## Q: How does graduating on time affect my retirement savings?

**A:** If you graduate in four years instead of six years, you get a two-year head start to retirement savings. Graduating in four years enables you to start your professional career earlier, which means you can begin contributing to retirement savings sooner. The earlier you start saving for retirement, the more you can benefit from compound interest over time, leading to greater financial security. By saving just \$200 per month, you could have \$5000 in your retirement savings. Those two years have can have a surprising impact on retirement savings... According to a June 21 report by San Francisco-based NerdWallet, a personal finance website, students who are still in class rather than on the job can lose out on \$150,000 in retirement savings that would compound over 45 years.”



## Q: What should I do if I am unsure about taking 15 credit hours?

**A:** It is important to meet with your academic advisor to plan your academic strategy. Your advisor can help you determine the best path to ensure you complete your degree efficiently while balancing your workload and personal commitments.

## Q: Is taking 15 credit hours manageable for most students?

**A:** Yes, it is manageable! Many students at Kennesaw State University successfully complete 15 credit hours each semester. With proper time management and planning, it is achievable. If you have any hesitations, consult your academic advisor to assess the situation together.