

3.6.3

The majority of credits toward a graduate or a post-baccalaureate professional degree are earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree. In the case of graduate and post-baccalaureate professional degree programs offered through joint, cooperative, or consortia arrangements, the student earns a majority of credits through instruction offered by the participating institutions. **(Institutional credits for a degree)**

The institution offers graduate programs at the master's, specialist, and doctoral levels. USC's Academic Regulations published in the *2010-2011 Graduate Studies Bulletin* state that "No more than 12 semester hours of graduate credit may be transferred into a master's program that requires 30-36 hours; no more than 15 semester hours of graduate credit may be transferred into a master's program that requires 37-45 hours; and no more than 18 semester hours of graduate credit may be transferred into a master's program that requires 46 or more semester hours." At the doctoral level, the *Bulletin* specifies that transfer hours may not be more than 50 percent of the hours in the program of study. However, the *Bulletin* does not reference transfer hours for the specialist level. The *Bulletin* also references collaborative programs and states that those agreements must meet academic credit policies which are to be included in the Memorandum of Understanding.