



Some think the new standard should require at least 30 credits of just course work, plus the project. However, two-thirds (65%) of all ATS DMin programs require fewer than 30 credits for coursework (only a few require more than 36 credits). It does not seem appropriate to propose a standard that two-thirds of our members would fail—based on these data.

But opinions also matter. To give those most involved in DMin programs a chance to offer theirs, ATS asked the ADME (Association for Doctor of Ministry Education) to survey DMin directors on the proposed standard of “a minimum of 30 semester credits or equivalent units.”

Its opinion? Forty-seven of the 49 respondents agreed with that proposal. Another important source of opinion is the professional judgment of ATS peer reviewers. More than 40 ATS DMin programs requiring a total of 30 credits have been evaluated by onsite peer reviewers during the last several decades as part of comprehensive evaluation visits or focused visits. All have been found to provide educational quality appropriate to this doctoral degree with no concerns raised about duration.

Still, the standards are only in draft form, and everyone’s opinion is welcome. We look forward to hearing yours.



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