

## **Glossary of Terms for Reporting Graduate Training:**

**Standard Semester:** 15-19 weeks (105-133 calendar days)

**Standard Quarter:** 10-13 weeks (70-91 calendar days)

**Non-standard term:** Semester or Quarter shorter or longer than their standard counterpart. Use calendar day method to determine days in the non-standard term.

**Full-time Modifier:** The minimum number of credit hours defined/published in the academic regulations required to be considered full-time for graduate training. This number is entered in the TT/FT field in VA-Once when reporting standard terms.

**Individually Defined Modifier (IDM):** Terms outside of VA's definition of standard term (shorter or longer) that *do* have a defined/published full-time modifier. This number is entered in the TT/FT field in VA-Once when reporting IDM terms.

Example #1: ABC College offers all programs using 8-week terms (no terms offered meet VA's definition of 'standard term'). This school considers 6 credits to be full time for graduate training. SCO will enter 6 in the TT/FT field in VA-Once when reporting IDM terms.

Example #2: ACME University offers a dentistry degree program using 12-month terms (no terms for this program meet VA's definition of 'standard term'). This school considers 24 credits to be full time for this graduate training. SCO will enter 24 in the TT/FT field in VA-Once when reporting for students in this dentistry program.

**Adjusted FT Modifier (Adj. FTM):** New terminology used to report non-standard grad training when there is no IDM for the non-standard term in question. Refer to *Procedural Advisory: School Certifying Official (SCO) Guidance for Certifying Chapter 33 Graduate Training – Updated Guidance*, issued August 13, 2021 for instructions on determining the Adj. FTM.

**Rate of Pursuit (RoP):** This factor is used to determine the monthly housing allowance rate for chapter 33 students. It is somewhat similar to the training time measurement used to determine the monthly rate other benefit types such as chapters 30, 1606 and 35. VA calculates RoP by dividing the number of credit (or credit hour equivalents) being pursued by the number of credits considered to be full-time by the school. The resulting percentage is the student's RoP. The applicable Basic Allowance for Housing (MHA) rate is multiplied by the RoP rounded up or down to the nearest multiple of 10.

Example #1: Grad student at John Q Public (JQP) school is enrolled in 6 credits during standard fall term. Full-time modifier is 9. Student's RoP is 6/9 or 67.77%. MHA rounds up to 70% of the full-time rate based on the zip code of JQP school.