The summer session, conducted in two terms of five weeks each, begins each year in June and ends in August. The summer academic program reflects the same general purpose as that of the fall and spring semesters. It also provides special advantages in allowing both current and new students an opportunity to accelerate their work toward their bachelor's degree and in permitting students to make up academic deficiencies they may have incurred.

In each term, summer courses normally meet five times weekly, Monday through Friday, in daily class sessions of 105 minutes per course. In addition, science courses have laboratories three afternoons a week meeting for approximately three hours each day. Most summer courses are three or four credit hours each. Students may undertake a maximum of two courses per term for a total of seven credit hours. The only exception to the two course/seven credit hour maximum relates to interim courses. A student who registers for an interim course during Summer I or Summer II may only take that one course. Hence, the maximum credit hours allowable for students completing an interim course in a particular term is four.

The teacher-certifying bodies of the various states, including South Carolina, have their own rules for applying course credits toward teachers' certificates and teachers should acquaint themselves with these rules before enrolling in summer courses.