

Notice

Date: September 10, 2018
To: General Authorities, Area Seventies, and Stake Presidents
From: Seminaries and Institutes of Religion (801-240-3480)
Subject: Stake-Based Institute Options

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

In 2011, a letter from the First Presidency encouraged priesthood leaders to make institute accessible to all young single adults (YSAs). To help implement this counsel, stake presidents were given the option of creating stake-based institutes. This stake-based option was helpful for YSAs who did not have access to existing campus institute programs.

Since their implementation in 2011, stake-based institutes have typically followed the scheduling patterns of the campus institute programs (such as the length of classes, when semesters begin and end, and credit requirements). To better meet the needs of those nonstudent YSAs attending stake-based institute programs, stake presidents now have the following options:

1. Shorten class sessions to one hour per week.
2. Hold class each week throughout the year, without the breaks normally associated with university calendars.
3. Emphasize attendance and learning over earning credit, especially for those who are not currently students. The option to receive credit toward fulfilling graduation requirements would still be available for those interested, including for those interested in transferring institute credit to a Church school.

Stake presidents are encouraged to work closely with their local Seminaries and Institutes representative to receive further details about these options and their possible implementation.

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