3341-3-66 Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s Program-Graduate.

Applicability | All University units- Graduate Students
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Responsible Unit | Office of the Provost
Policy Administrator | Graduate College

(A) Policy Statement and Purpose

The Graduate College at Bowling Green State University has several graduate programs that permit qualified undergraduate students who are earning their bachelor’s degree at BGSU to apply to an Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program. Participating in an Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program provides the opportunity for students to complete both a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in an efficient and effective format. Not all Master’s degree programs participate in the Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program.

1These policies pertain to students who wish to officially work toward both a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree at BGSU simultaneously. However, students who wish to take graduate level courses during their senior year but not officially enroll in a Master’s degree program may apply to do so by earning Advanced Undergraduate Status (AUS). AUS guidelines can be found on the Graduate College website Documents and Forms.

(B) Policy

(1) Admissions Requirements

Students interested in pursuing an Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program should see program specific websites for additional guidelines and expectations. In addition to any program-specific requirements, the following Graduate College policies apply to all programs.
An application to an Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program requires the following:

(a) By the start of Pre-Master’s status, either:
   (i) 75 credit hours earned and an overall BGSU GPA of at least 3.2\(^2\), or
   (ii) 90 credit hours earned and an overall BGSU GPA of at least 3.0;

(b) A completed Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s Program Application;

(c) Official transcripts from all universities attended;

(d) At least one letter of recommendation from a full-time BGSU faculty member, preferably from graduate faculty within the student’s major or targeted graduate program;

(e) Completion of any other program-specific graduate application requirements (see desired program website).

\(^2\) For the purposes of this policy, BGSU GPA is calculated based on BGSU credits only. However, credits transferred into BGSU may be counted as part of credit hours earned (not GPA).

(2) Student Status

Once accepted into an Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program, the student remains coded as an undergraduate student with Pre-Master’s status and officially becomes coded as a graduate student once the student has earned the bachelor’s degree. The student’s coding as an undergraduate or graduate student is associated with other BGSU policies pertaining to degree status.

(3) Credit Hour Policies

The following policies apply to students in all Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s programs. Applicants should check
individual program websites for any additional policies pertaining to that particular program.

(a) After being accepted into an Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program, students may take up to 12 credit hours of graduate credit while maintaining undergraduate status.

(b) Subject to program approval, students may apply a maximum of 12 credit hours to both the bachelor’s and master’s programs. However, the ability to apply credit hours to both the undergraduate and graduate degree is influenced by each program’s minimum credit hour requirements (see (c)).

(c) At the end of both the bachelor’s and master’s degrees, a student must have a minimum of 150 discrete semester credit hours (120 + 30 = 150 state of Ohio regulated minimum credits).

(d) Pre-Master’s students may enroll in 5000 and 6000 level graduate classes (not 7000).

(e) All graduate policies pertaining to graduate credit hours, time to degree, and other regulations are also applicable to Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program students.

(4) Tuition

Students enrolled in Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s programs with Pre-Master’s status will pay tuition at the undergraduate rate through the completion of the Bachelor’s degree. Thereafter, students will be coded as graduate students and pay the graduate rate for tuition and fees.

(5) Financial Aid

Students will be eligible for financial aid based on their BGSU student status as either an undergraduate or graduate student. During a student’s Pre-Master’s status, they remain coded as undergraduate students and may be eligible for financial aid but not graduate assistantships. Once students become regularly
admitted graduate students with full graduate student status, they may be eligible for graduate-level financial assistance, including graduate assistantships with stipends and/or graduate tuition scholarships.

(6) Program Withdrawal

A student admitted to an Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s program with a Pre-Master’s status may withdraw from the program and continue as a traditional undergraduate student toward the completion of the bachelor’s degree.

(7) Program Dismissal

Students who fail to maintain minimum requirements for adequate academic graduate standing will lose Pre-Master’s status, and as a result will be unable to continue taking graduate level courses. Under these conditions, if adequate standing is maintained for their undergraduate program, the student may continue in the bachelor’s degree program.

Registered Date: November 2, 2016