

## Guidelines for Departments Developing an Accelerated Program Bachelor's to Master's Degrees

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Proposed Accelerated Programs must meet the ***Accelerated Program Requirements***, as well as follow the best practices listed below:

- **Admission:** Following completion of a minimum of 15 hours in the undergraduate major, the student may be considered for acceptance into the Accelerated Program in one of two ways: faculty nomination or student self-nomination, via submission of the ***Accelerated Program Application Form***. Programs will review the applications and approve the nomination. The application requires approval from the Graduate Program, College, and Graduate School.
- **Program of Study:** Programs must complete a Program of Study, develop a plan for academic advising, and tracking of students, including notation of potential financial aid impact.
- **Shared Credit:** Typically, up to twelve (12) hours of graduate credit may be shared between the graduate and undergraduate degree. Although, with Graduate Council and Graduate School approval, programs may offer accelerated programs with more shared credits.
- **GPA:** Programs must establish a minimum undergraduate GPA requirement of at least 3.33 overall and a minimum GPA requirement of 3.50 in the major, having taken a minimum of 15 hours in the undergraduate major, for students to be admitted to an accelerated program. Students must have a minimum of a "B" (3.00) in each graduate course. Consequences for not obtaining at least a "B" in each graduate course must be noted in the Departmental Accelerated Program requirements.
- **Graduate Standing:** Programs will notify the Graduate School to officially convert the student to graduate standing, after the student has been certified for the undergraduate degree.
- **Degree Conferral:** Programs have a choice of conferring degrees simultaneously or sequentially, but it is recommended that undergraduate degrees are to be conferred in a timely manner as soon as undergraduate requirements are fulfilled.

### Accelerated Program Requirements (Academic Information for Catalog)

Accelerated Programs allow academically qualified students to complete an undergraduate Bachelor's degree and a graduate master's degree on an accelerated timeline, graduating sooner than in traditional programs.

#### Admission Requirements

Admission into an Accelerated Program is accomplished in one of two ways: Faculty Nomination or Student Self-Application.

To be eligible for consideration for an Accelerated Program, students must:

- Have completed a minimum of 15 undergraduate hours in the major
- Have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.33 overall
- Have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.50 in the major

#### Program Degree Requirements

Each Program will indicate the specific undergraduate and graduate academic requirements, including the up to 12 hours of shared coursework between the undergraduate and graduate degrees:

- 1) Undergraduate Degree Requirements
- 2) Shared Requirements
- 3) Graduate Degree Requirements

Refer to the Accelerated Programs Website at [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu) for procedures and forms.