Accelerated Program Guidelines

Programs who desire to offer Accelerated Degree Programs must establish guidelines that define the following. The guidelines must then be submitted and approved by the Policy Committee of the Graduate Council.

In clearly defined written policy, programs will:

- Define the number of shared credits: No more than ½ of the required graduate program credits can be completed while in undergraduate status.

- Develop a program of study in which shared coursework and the degree requirements for both degrees are clearly stated.

- Define when the student will receive the bachelor’s degree: either at the completion of 120 credits earned or at the completion of the 5 year program.

- Formally admit students into accelerated 5 year programs through a defined admission process. Students should be admitted into a 5 year program at the beginning of the senior year.

- Advise students about the financial aid implications of the 5 year program and will refer students to the Office of Financial Aid for advice.

- Review the student’s academic record prior to entering graduate status in the 5 year program. Students must receive a grade of B or above in graduate level courses taken while in undergraduate status.

- Permit students to formally withdraw from the 5 year program and receive the bachelor’s degree, as long as the student has met the undergraduate requirements for the specified program.

Acceptance into the 5 year program is contingent upon final approval by the Dean of the Graduate School.