

## **Admission** (page 20 of the Graduate Bulletin)

Every person who desires to enroll in or audit any graduate credit course must be first admitted or approved by the Graduate School.

Online applications for admission to the Graduate School should be submitted electronically at least six weeks (domestic) and six months (international) before the start of the term for which admission is sought in order to allow adequate time for complete processing. Some programs have earlier deadlines. Applicants should contact the departments for more detailed application information. Information on graduate programs, including application deadlines, is available on the Graduate School website at <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch>.

First-time applications to the Graduate School must be accompanied by an application fee. The fee for domestic students is \$45. The fee for international students is \$70. A fee of \$45 must accompany all domestic and international reapplications. Applications fees are not refundable under any circumstance.

An official transcript from each college or university attended must also be received by the Graduate School before the application will be processed. This applies to the complete academic record, both undergraduate and graduate. Transcripts should be sent from the institutions attended directly to the Graduate School. The applicant is responsible for seeing that the above conditions are met by the deadlines for filing applications.

All documentation submitted to the Graduate School becomes the permanent property of The University of Akron. The Graduate School converts all documentation into an electronic file. After the document is converted into an electronic file the hard copy document is destroyed, and, as a result, the Graduate School is not able to provide and/or return original documentation to any applicant.

An offer of admission may only be made to an applicant who meets all admission requirements. It must be recognized that staff, facilities, and other resources are limited, so the number of students accepted will vary among departments and from term to term. An accepted applicant may begin graduate work in the fall, spring or summer semester. The offer of admission is void, however, if the applicant does not register for and attend courses within one year from the semester for which admission was granted.

An individual whose offer of admission has lapsed must submit a new application along with the reapplication fee to be reconsidered.

The student is admitted only for the purpose or objective stated on the application for admission. A new request for admission must be filed when the original objective has been attained or when the student wishes to change objectives. The admitted status terminates when the time limits have been exceeded or other conditions for continued admitted status have not been met.

No student will be admitted without approval and acceptance by an academic department within the University, but admission to a department does not necessarily imply candidacy for any graduate degree program in that department. Admission for graduate study in any program can only be granted by the Dean of the Graduate School and the staff of that office.

### **Admission Validity**

An applicant is admitted for the term for which he/she seeks admission as indicated on the graduate application. Admission for graduate studies is valid for one year, thus an applicant is provided the option of deferring admission to a later semester within the one year timeframe. The offer of admission is void, however, if the applicant does not register for courses within the one year from the semester of admission. This does not apply to admission to those programs that admit for the fall semester only. Admission to such programs is only valid for that fall term for which admission was granted.

### **Non-accredited American School Graduates**

A student holding a baccalaureate degree from a non-accredited American college or university is required to complete at least 10 semester credits of post baccalaureate work at a 3.00 level before being considered for admission to the Graduate School. The accreditation status of the school at the time of the student's graduation shall apply. A student should consult with the department chair in the major field to develop a post baccalaureate program.

### **Transfer Students**

A graduate student matriculated in the Graduate School of another college or university who wishes to transfer to The University of Akron to continue graduate education must be in good standing at the other school.

### **Entrance Qualifying Examinations**

The use of examinations to determine admissibility to enter a graduate program or eligibility to continue in one is the prerogative of the departments offering graduate programs. The department has the right to select the examination and minimum acceptable level of performance. Information and procedure may be obtained from the chair of the appropriate department.

### **Classification**

All students are identified by the Graduate School as being in one of the following categories. Any change must be arranged through the Graduate School.

- **Full Admission** may be given to any applicant who desires to pursue a graduate degree and has a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with an overall grade-point average of 2.75 or better or 3.00 for the last two years (64 semester credits or equivalent); or holds an advanced degree from an accredited college or university in or appropriate to the intended field; or holds a baccalaureate or master's degree from a foreign college or university with first-class standing or its equivalent, plus satisfactory evidence of competence in English. Full admission may also be granted to applicants to the College of Business Administration who meet the college's admission requirements.
- **Provisional Admission** may be granted to a person who has not met all of the requirements for full admission. This admission status permits a student to take up to 15 semester credits of graduate coursework. Graduate courses taken under this admission status may be applied to a graduate degree program, but only when all requirements for full admission have been met.
- **Deferred Admission** may be granted if the applicant's record does not meet provisional admission standards. After completion of a post baccalaureate program of study, with an appropriate GPA, as prescribed by the department (usually two to five courses), the student may be

reconsidered for provisional admission to the Graduate School. Graduate-level coursework cannot be taken by a student under the deferred admission status.

- **Conditional Admission** may be granted to a person who has not yet attained the required proficiency in English. This proficiency can be demonstrated by an official TOEFL score of at least 550 on the paper-based TOEFL or 213 on the computer-based TOEFL, or 79 on the internet-based TOEFL, or by the successful completion of courses offered by the University's English Language Institute (ELI). Students may not enroll in graduate courses until the English proficiency requirement has been satisfied. Note: Some academic departments require higher TOEFL scores.

- **Non-Degree Admission** may be granted to a person who wishes to take particular courses but who is not working toward a graduate degree. This admission status permits a student to take unlimited credits of graduate coursework. Graduate courses taken under this admission status may be applied later to a graduate degree program, but only when all requirements for full admission have been met.

- **Special Workshop** status is for a person permitted to take workshops for graduate credit without being admitted to Graduate School. Such permission is granted by the workshop director upon receipt of a signed statement of possession of a baccalaureate degree by the applicant, and terminates upon completion of this workshop. A student admitted to special workshop status must apply through regular channels for any other category. A maximum of six workshop credits may be applied to degree work at a later date if the applicant is given full admission to the Graduate School.

- **Transient status** may be given to a person who is a regularly enrolled graduate student in good standing in a degree program at another accredited university and has written permission to enroll at The University of Akron. Such permission is valid only for the courses and semester specified, with a maximum of 10 semester credits allowable, and is subject to the approval of the instructor, department chair and Graduate School. A transient student is subject to the same rules and regulations as a regularly enrolled student of the University.

- **Undergraduate** status is for an undergraduate student at the University who may be granted permission to take one or more graduate-level courses if all the following conditions are met.

- senior standing;

- overall grade-point average of 2.75 or better through preceding term (if a student does not have a 3.00 or better in the major field, special justification will be required from the department);

- written approval is given by the instructor of the course and the student's advisor.

These courses may later be applied to a degree program if not used to satisfy baccalaureate degree requirements. The maximum number of graduate credits that may be taken by an undergraduate and applied later toward a graduate degree is 12.

- **Academic Probation** status refers to any student whose cumulative graduate grade point average falls below 3.00 and is no longer in good academic standing. Full-time students placed on academic probation are expected to return to good academic standing (overall GPA of 3.00 or above) after two consecutive semesters (excluding summers). Part-time students are expected to return to good academic standing (overall GPA of 3.00 or above) within the attempting of 15 additional graduate credits. Failure to return to good academic standing may result in academic dismissal.

- **Academic Dismissal** status refers to any student who fails to make satisfactory progress toward declared goals or who accumulates six semester credits of "C+" or below. The accumulation of six semester credits of "F" will result in mandatory dismissal. A student who is dismissed from the Graduate School may not be readmitted for one calendar year and then only if evidence for expecting satisfactory performance is submitted and found to be acceptable.

- **Postdoctoral** status is divided into three categories:

- a Fellow is a person holding an earned doctorate who is engaged in advanced research. A fellow shall be considered a guest of the University and provided space and use of facilities within limits of practical need of the undergraduate and graduate programs. Tuition and fees shall be collected if

allowed under sponsoring contract for any courses the fellow may choose to take;

– a Special is a person holding an earned doctorate who desires an additional graduate degree. A special may be admitted to any program upon submission of application forms, application fee (if new student) and an official transcript from the institution awarding the doctorate. This student will be treated as a regular student subject to registration fees and program degree requirements;

– a Guest is a person holding an earned doctorate who desires to attend courses and seminars relevant to individual work or interest without registering or receiving grades. A written application should be submitted to the dean of the Graduate School for each course to be taken, and approval of the instructor, department chair and college dean shall be obtained. A guest is welcome to register for any course or seminar provided space is available. Normally, space and facilities for research cannot be provided for a postdoctoral guest but special requests will be considered. Requests should be submitted, in writing, to the dean of the Graduate School who will review such requests with the appropriate college dean and department cha