

EARLY ENTRY GRADUATE PROGRAM APPLICATION

Department: Political Science + Public Administration
 Program (degree/certificate and major): masters in Public Administration
 Requestor Name: Suzanne Ireland Date: 2/24/15

On behalf of the department named above, I hereby request permission to implement an Early Entry Graduate Program option so that exceptional UNC Charlotte undergraduate students may begin work toward a graduate degree/certificate before completion of the baccalaureate degree. Based on the published guidelines for an Early Entry Program, the program summary and our criteria for admission and continued enrollment are as follows:

Program Summary

1. The Early Entry Program is accelerated in which up to 12 hours (*normally 6 but no more than 12*) earned at the graduate level may be substituted for required undergraduate hours. In other words, up to 12 hours of graduate work may be "double counted" toward both the baccalaureate and graduate degrees.
2. Students admitted to the Early Entry Program may only be considered for a graduate assistantship after they complete the baccalaureate degree. Students admitted to an Early Entry Program pay undergraduate tuition and fees for all courses (*graduate and undergraduate*) for which they register until such time that the baccalaureate degree is earned.

Admission Requirements

1. A student may be accepted to the Early Entry Program at any time after completion of 75 (*minimum 75*) semester hours of undergraduate work applicable to the appropriate baccalaureate degree although it is expected that at least 90 hours will have been earned by the time the first graduate course is taken.
2. The application process and all required documentation (e.g., test scores, transcripts, letters of recommendation) are the same for early entry students as for other applicants to the program unless an exception is requested herein (ie: test scores are not required).
Exception Requested: None
3. To be accepted to the Early Entry Program, an undergraduate student must have at least a 3.2 cumulative undergraduate grade point average.
4. Admission must be recommended by the Graduate Program Director and approved by the Graduate School.

Continued Enrollment Requirements

1. A student admitted to the Early Entry Program must provide a completed Early Entry Program Form to the Graduate School for approval prior to registering for graduate course work each semester. For domestic students, not submitting the Form in a prompt manner may impact Financial Aid.
2. Admission to an Early Entry Program is limited to two semesters pending the award of the undergraduate degree. Exceptions may be considered on a case by case basis.
3. Early entry students must maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative undergraduate grade point average while enrolled in the Early Entry Program. Students who do not meet the normal admission requirement of a 3.0 cumulative undergraduate GPA at the end of his/her baccalaureate degree will be dismissed from the graduate program.
4. Students accepted to the Early Entry Program will be subject to the same policies that pertain to other matriculated graduate students. Early entry students must complete their baccalaureate degrees before they complete 15 hours of graduate work.