



Accelerated Bachelor’s / Master’s Programs: Proposed New Allowances for Credits That Are Counted Toward Both Degrees

The Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s Program was created to provide an incentive for highly qualified undergraduate students to pursue a Master’s degree at UMBC by allowing graduate-level courses to be taken during their last years of study as an undergraduate. These credits can be counted toward the credits needed for both the Bachelor’s degree and the Master’s degree. The Graduate School proposes that the faculty of UMBC adopt the new plan for credit allowances in the Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s programs shown below. These new allowances are designed to allow approximately one third of the required credits for the Master’s program to be eligible for “double” counting and take into consideration the flexibility needed for those graduate programs that have some 4-credit courses. For example, in a 30-credit Master’s program with 3- and 4-credit courses, a student may double count up to three courses that may result in counting between 9 and 12 credits toward both degrees. The Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees may be in separate departments. For example, a Political Science student may elect to pursue her/his graduate degree in Public Policy. If that student is accepted into the Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s program, he/she will be allowed to take up to 12 credits of graduate-level courses as an undergraduate, and those courses will double count for both degrees. This is approximately one third of the 37 credits required for the Master’s degree in Public Policy. In all cases, the faculty of both programs must approve the courses that are being used toward the degrees in their respective departments.

Credits Required to Graduate	Current Credit Allowances	Proposed Credit Allowances
30 to 35	9 Credits	Up to 10 Credits or 3 Courses not to Exceed 12 Credits
36 to 40	12 Credits (by special approval of the Dean)	Up to 12 Credits