Graduate Admission to the University

The University of Idaho offers 31 doctoral programs, 5 specialist programs, and 87 master's programs. Graduate students are able to pursue degrees full- or part-time.

Graduate programs are offered through one or more of the following locations: Moscow, the UI’s Centers in Boise, Coeur d’Alene, or Idaho Falls, as well as Engineering Outreach or other distance learning opportunities. Please see www.uidaho.edu/admissions/graduate to determine where graduate programs are delivered.

More than 600 faculty members participate in teaching and research. In addition to the accreditation of some individual programs, the University is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

Academic Requirements
Students who satisfy all criteria listed below will be considered for graduate admission to the University of Idaho:

1. Have a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university, or recognized international institution accredited by a regional accrediting association. If the degree is not from a recognized but not regionally accredited institution, the application may be reviewed by the department and by the College of Graduate Studies.

Or

Have completed three years of undergraduate study in an international accredited institution which has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the University of Idaho for a cooperative 3+2 program leading to a graduate degree. Cooperative 3+2 programs may have higher entrance requirements. (see COGS website for a list of 3+2 programs).

2. Have an undergraduate cumulative grade-point average of 3.00 or higher or an undergraduate grade-point average of 3.00 or higher for the last 60 semester credits (or 90 quarter credits),

3. Have maintained at least a 3.00 grade-point average in subsequent academic work if any, and

4. Have met any additional requirements set forth by the department or program which may be required. Please review the graduate admissions website for specific departmental/program requirements at www.uidaho.edu/admissions/graduate.

5. Have been reviewed and recommended for acceptance by the academic unit administering the program in which the student seeks to enroll. For individual academic unit admission requirements, please refer to individual department sections of this catalog or consult the Graduate Admissions website at www.uidaho.edu/gradadmissions. www.uidaho.edu/admissions/graduate.

The College of Graduate Studies requires all applicants to submit three letters of recommendation, a one to two page Statement of Career Objectives and a one to two page resume/curriculum vitae. Students planning to apply for work leading to a graduate degree should contact the academic unit in which they wish to major before submitting the application for graduate admission. All admission
recommendations are made at the academic until level with final admission decision made by the College of Graduate Studies. Admission is granted only to a specific degree and program and initial admission is granted for a specific semester.

**English Language Proficiency.** UI requires all applicants whose primary language is not English to demonstrate proficiency in the English language. Because most applicants report the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score, UI bases its minimum English language proficiency requirements on the TOEFL. UI College of Graduate Studies requires a minimum TOEFL score of 550/79 (paper or internet based test). UI does not accept scores that are more than two years old. Equivalent measures of proficiency acceptable to UI include the MELAB (77) and the Cambridge IELTS (6.5). It is important to verify the departmental TOEFL score requirement as many departments require a score higher than indicated above. Exceptions to the minimum TOEFL requirement are made for (a) those from official English-speaking countries, (b) those who have earned a degree from another U.S. institution, or (c) have completed ALCP level 6.

Admission application files will be sent to the academic unit for review once all required documents have been received by the Graduate Admissions Office and the application fee has been paid. Students currently enrolled in a college or university need to submit a current transcript that shows all work completed thus far.

**Priority Deadlines and Application Fees**

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By meeting the priority deadline, the student will receive full consideration for awarding College of Graduate Studies tuition waivers will be given to applicants who meet the above deadlines. Individual academic units may have earlier admission deadlines, especially for applicants seeking financial assistance or assistantships.

The academic unit will determine which terms they will admit students. Check the Graduate Admission Department Requirements website for applicable admission terms (www.uidaho.edu/admissions/graduate/graduate-programs).

Some academic units do not admit graduate students for the spring and summer terms.

Applications received after the above deadlines but before the official start of the semester for which the applicant is seeking entry will be accepted only if additional students can be accommodated.

Please consult the graduate admissions website at www.uidaho.edu/gradadmissions www.uidaho.edu/admissions/graduate for more information regarding academic departments’ requirements and deadlines.
The Graduate Admissions Office is not authorized to release application information to anyone other than the applicant without written authorization. Please submit a Student Consent for Release Form (available on the admissions website) if you want someone specific to be given information regarding your admission status.

**Deadline for International Application for Admission.** To provide time for evaluation, for notice of admission status to reach the applicant, and for United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (USICE) requirements to be met for issuance of a student visa, applications and credential should be received by the Graduate Admissions Office no later than the following dates: for Fall semester, May 1; for Spring semester, October 1; for summer session, March 15.

**Graduate Record Examination:**
The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not a College of Graduate Studies requirement, but is required by some academic units. Official copies of GRE results must come from the Educational Testing Service. In rare cases, if the examination is many years out of date, students may be able to provide unofficial results of the examination with their admission application to facilitate evaluation and acceptance. GRE scores are retained by the student’s academic unit.

**Transcripts and Application for Graduate Admission**
Students wishing to enter the College of Graduate Studies must submit a University of Idaho application for admission, three letters of recommendation from professional/academic references, a statement of career objectives, a vitae/resume, and have official transcripts sent directly from each institution attended delivered to the Graduate Admissions Office. Transcripts become the property of the university and cannot be copied, returned, or forwarded.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for permanent residents and American citizens whose primary language is not English. Primary language is defined as native language or the official language used by the country of the applicant’s previous university level education.

Transcripts are required for the application review process. A copy of an official transcript (and its English translation if from a foreign institution) for every college and university that the applicant attended is acceptable for the application review process. Applicants may upload official transcripts and translations via the online application. Uploaded transcripts must be legible. Please scan at 600 dpi resolution minimum. International applicants who have already earned a graduate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution and are seeking a graduate degree at Idaho will need to submit official transcripts from the graduate degree granting institution and unofficial copies of previous undergraduate work if completed outside the U.S. All transcripts sent to the Graduate Admissions Office as part of the application process become part of the official Graduate Admissions application file and cannot be returned or transferred.

**Official Academic Credentials:** Transcripts, mark sheets, grade reports, or examination results, along with degree certificates from all higher education institutions attended will be required. When sending official transcripts from schools located in non-English-speaking countries, each institution must submit both the English translation plus an original language record. Transcripts that are sent directly from the institution will be considered official. Transcripts should be sent directly from the institution (FedEx, UPS, or DHL) to the following address: University of Idaho Graduate Admissions Office, 205 Morrill Hall, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-3019. Transcripts sent through U.S. Mail should be sent to University of Idaho Graduate Admissions Office, 875 Perimeter Drive MS3017, Moscow Idaho, 83844.
Transcripts not sent directly from an institution or are hand delivered and are embossed and/or on official university letterhead and sealed in an envelope with a university stamp and/or a signature across the seal may be considered official. If transcripts are deemed unofficial, then official transcripts must be received before registration opens for subsequent terms or a registration hold will be placed on the students’ registration. Any discrepancies later found between the student-provided / uploaded unofficial transcripts and official transcripts will be grounds for immediate dismissal. The College of Graduate Studies reserves the right to request a third-party, course-by-course, evaluation of transcripts at any time. The cost of the evaluation will be the responsibility of the student.

Acceptance to the College of Graduate Studies
When admitted to the College of Graduate Studies, a graduate applicant will be issued a letter of acceptance. Acceptance is granted for a specified term. If the applicant does not register for the term desired or admitted but wished to enroll in a future term, the applicant must submit a new application and fee to the Graduate Admissions Office. Transcripts and test scores for applicants who are admitted but do not enroll, applicants who are denied, or applicants who do not complete the admission process are retained for up to one year.

Graduate Admission Categories

Regular Enrollment. Regular enrollment for graduate study leading toward an advanced degree may be granted to a student who satisfies all of the following criteria: (1) has a bachelor’s degree from a college or university accredited by a regionally accrediting association, (2) has an undergraduate cumulative grade-point average of 3.00 or higher or an undergraduate grade-point average of 3.00 or higher for the last 60 semester credits (or 90 quarter credits), (3) has maintained at least a 3.00 grade-point average in subsequent academic work if any, and (4) has been reviewed and recommended for acceptance by the department administering the program in which the student seeks to enroll.

Students who are part of a recognized 3+2 program will be considered to be regularly admitted when they have met the specific admission requirements of COGS and any enhanced requirements outlined by the department which is offering the 3+2 program.

Provisional Enrollment. A student who is not eligible for regular enrollment may be considered for provisional enrollment (on the master’s level only) if the academic unit administering the program recommends it, and if at least two of the following conditions are met: (1) the student’s undergraduate GPA shows steady improvement; (2) the student has taken post-baccalaureate undergraduate level course work with A and/or B grades; (3) the student has achieved the 75th percentile on the relevant GRE or equivalent exam; (4) the student has been out of school for five or more years and has been working for at least one year in the field of the proposed graduate major. The academic unit specifies conditions that the student must fulfill in order to be advanced to regular enrollment. Provisional enrollment may also be granted to a student who is otherwise eligible for regular enrollment but whose prospective academic unit specifies conditions that he or she must first meet (i.e. achievement of specific grades and/or completion of specific course work). International students who hold nonresident alien visas and students who are to be appointed to assistantships cannot be accepted in provisional enrollment.

The admissions office notifies the student that he/she has been accepted for provisional enrollment. In the letter of acceptance, the following general and specific terms governing the student’s provisional enrollment are stated:
1. A student may not remain in provisional enrollment status for more than 12 consecutive calendar months (a shorter period may be specified). Nor may a student remain in this status after completing nine credits (a lower credit limitation may be specified).

2. A student will be advanced from provisional to regular enrollment provided he or she maintains a GPA of at least 3.00 each semester while in the provisional status (a higher GPA may be specified), fulfills the conditions, if any, that were specified at the time of initial enrollment, and receives no incompletes.

3. A student who does not meet the stated conditions for advancement to regular enrollment within the specified time and credit limitations cannot continue in the College of Graduate Studies or enroll in 500-level courses and is subject to normal disqualification and reinstatement procedures.

It is the student's responsibility to be in touch with the administrative unit regarding his or her progress toward meeting the conditions for advancement.

The conditions specified for a student's advancement to regular enrollment are established at the time of his or her acceptance and must not be changed (i.e., either strengthened or relaxed) thereafter.

Academic units need not require a student to make up ALL of his or her academic deficiencies while in provisional enrollment. Performance on a limited selection of them should suffice to demonstrate whether or not the student has the ability to do satisfactory graduate work. Remaining deficiencies, if any, can be made up after the student is in regular enrollment. The academic unit must be sure that any courses the student is required to take while in provisional enrollment will, in fact, be offered during that period.

**Conditional Admission.** Conditional admission may be granted to applicants who qualify academically, but who have not yet met UI's minimum English language proficiency requirement. In conditional admission status, students enroll in UI's American Language and Culture Program (ALCP) to achieve the academic units English language requirement prior to being granted full admission and commencing their degree programs. Please note that not all academic units grant conditional admission. International students in a 3+2 program are not eligible for conditional admission.

**Concurrent Enrollment as an Option of Conditional Admission.** Students enrolled in ALCP Level 5 or Level 6 may, in consultation with the coordinator of ALCP and the course instructor, obtain approval to enroll as non-degree students for up to 7 credits per semester of academic courses in addition to their full-time ALCP courses. Students whose proficiency levels later prove inadequate for success in the academic courses may be withdrawn at the discretion of the academic course instructor and the ALCP coordinator. Once students achieve the necessary language qualification and gain full admission to the university, they may apply the credits of academic courses completed while in conditional admission status toward UI degree programs (other university and College of Graduate Studies restrictions may apply).

**Unclassified Enrollment.** Unclassified enrollment is for students who do not wish to work for a graduate degree and is not to be used as a probationary category. Admission as an unclassified student does not guarantee subsequent transfer to a degree program. This enrollment category is not open to
international students who hold nonresident alien visas or to students who are to be appointed to assistantships. Students on Unclassified enrollment are not eligible for Title IV financial aid.

Non-degree Student. Refer to the "Non-Degree Admission Requirements" section above for a full description of this classification. Non-degree students are not admitted to the College of Graduate Studies. They may, however, take graduate courses with permission of the instructor and the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies provided that they have earned a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution with an overall 3.00 GPA. Non-degree students are not eligible for Title IV financial aid. If a non-degree student receives a grade of C, D, or F in a 500-level course, he/she loses the privilege of taking more 500-level courses.

Application Requirements for Graduate Academic Certificates. Students must complete the online application for a Graduate Level Academic certificate ($30.00 application fee) and provide evidence of a completed bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution (unofficial transcripts will be accepted for graduate certificate applications) in a generally related area with an overall GPA of at least 3.0. Students who have below a 3.0 cumulative GPA on their undergraduate record and wish to enroll in a graduate certificate program are encouraged to apply and may be admitted based on departmental review. Certificate only students will be classified as certificate seeking at the graduate level and are not eligible for financial aid. International graduate certificate applicants must meet the University of Idaho language requirement. Due to the nature of this program, immigration regulations prohibit students requiring an F-1 or J-1 visa admission to this program. Current graduate degree seeking University of Idaho Students will be required to fill out a Change of Curriculum form adding the graduate certificate as an additional curriculum. Students should obtain the proper signatures from the department and return to the Office of the Registrar for processing. Current Undergraduate students wishing to earn a Graduate Academic Certificate must be eligible to participate in graduate level courses (minimum requirements — senior standing and a 3.0 UI overall GPA). If the course is not being used for the undergraduate degree the student should file a Course Level Adjustment form to reserve the course for the GR transcript (maximum of 12 credits may be reserved for the graduate transcript). Once the student earns their bachelor’s degree they may apply as a graduate certificate seeking student and complete the certificate program.

Concurrent or Multiple Level Curricula for Graduate Students. A graduate student may simultaneously enroll in an undergraduate, graduate or law program. The "Course Level Adjustment" form, "Credit Reservation Form" indicating course use (graduate, undergraduate or law) is available and must be filed each semester or session by the 10th day of classes. Please note that students seeking a degree at more than one level will need to officially apply for admission at the appropriate level. Placing courses from the undergraduate level to the graduate level or graduate level to the undergraduate level, when no degree is sought, does not require admission to the level where the course will be placed. Student fees for the courses are determined by the student’s primary level; however, an undergraduate will/may be charged graduate fees for any courses placed on the graduate transcript.

Seniors in 500-Level Courses. A senior who has a cumulative grade-point average of 3.00 or higher may enroll in 500-level courses. The course(s) may be placed on either the undergraduate or the graduate transcript but will automatically be placed on the undergraduate transcript unless the student completes a "Course Level Adjustment" form, "Credit Reservation Form" indicating the appropriate transcript placement for the course. The placement of courses on a graduate transcript does not admit or guarantee subsequent admission of such students to the Graduate College. The deadline for filing student must submit the "Course Level Adjustment" form Credit Reservation Form to the College of
Graduate Studies Office before the last day of the semester in which the Bachelor’s Degree is earned. Once a student graduates with their undergraduate degree, courses will not be moved to a graduate level transcript as of the tenth day of the class for that semester or session. All Students may be assessed graduate fees for courses placed on a graduate transcript, regardless of the course level, will be assessed graduate fees.

Returning Students. A graduate student who has completed one degree and wishes to enroll in further courses must file a “Change of Curriculum” form with the Graduate Studies Office. A returning graduate student who has not enrolled within two years of the term in which he or she wishes to register must file an Application for Readmission with the Graduate Admissions Office (see B-1). Readmission must be approved by the department in whose degree program the returning graduate student wishes to enroll. If the department denies the readmission, the student will be moved automatically into Unclassified enrollment status.

Graduate Admission of Additional Information for International Students

The College of Graduate Studies welcomes applications from qualified students from other countries. International applicants are expected to have qualifications equivalent to those required of other graduate students.

- Prospective international students must have the equivalent of a U.S. Bachelor’s Degree from a recognized and approved institution. Usually this is a minimum of four years of study beyond grade 12 or equivalent. Students from EHEA (Bologna Accord) or other international institutions awarding three-year Bachelor’s Degrees will be reviewed and may be admitted if accepted by the academic program. Not all three-year degrees are equivalent to a U.S. Bachelor’s Degree. Please, visit the graduate admissions website prior to application to determine if your three-year degree is acceptable.

- Copy of Passport or National Identity Card. The applicant should submit a clear and readable copy of their passport, or national identity card if no passport has been issued, or if currently in the U.S., a copy of the applicant’s visa.

Credentials. Official transcripts and/or certified copies of the certificate, diploma, or government examination report received on completion of any college or university course work must be delivered directly to the Graduate Admissions Office in a sealed envelope. The credentials must be originals obtained from the certifying agency. The credentials must be translated into English if written in a foreign language.

- Financial Verification: The student may submit application materials without financial verification. However, if the department is recommending the student for admission into the graduate program, the student will be required to submit a completed “Certificate of Financial Responsibility” before the student will be issued an I-20. Please, see www.uidaho.edu/admissions/graduate/graduate-admissions-forms for financial responsibility forms.

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Enrollment Requirements. In order to pursue a degree, international students must be authorized in their current visa status. Immigration regulations require that international students holding F-1 or J-1 student visas be certified as full-time students during the academic year. F-1 graduate students are required to be enrolled in 9 credit hours and are allowed to take up to 3 credits of online coursework towards this requirement. J-1 visa holders are also required to enroll in 9 credit hours, but are not allowed to take online classes toward the 9-credit requirement. Other visa categories may be eligible to study in the U.S. Students who do not hold an F-1 or J-1 student status should contact the International Programs Office for rules governing enrollment while in the U.S.

Financial Statement. As required by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (USICE), all international students who hold or intend to hold nonresident alien visas must present to the Graduate Admissions Office satisfactory statements of finances and adequate proof of financial responsibility or sponsorship to cover all financial obligations while attending the University of Idaho.

Health and Accident Insurance. Supplemental health and accident insurance is mandatory for international students who hold nonresident alien visas and all accompanying dependents. Students must purchase and maintain the UI health insurance (SHIP) policy or document coverage of an equivalent policy with the International Programs Office before they are allowed to register or attend classes. Failure to obtain and maintain the required insurance may subject students to sanctions, up to and including disenrollment. See information on insurance in the Student Services section.

Status. In order to pursue a degree, international students must be authorized in their current visa status. Immigration regulations require that international students holding F-1 or J-1 student visas be certified as full-time students during the academic year. F-1 graduate students are required to be enrolled in 9 credit hours and are allowed to take up to 3 credits of online coursework towards this requirement. J-1 visa holders are also required to enroll in 9 credit hours, but are not allowed to take online classes toward the 9-credit requirement. Other visa categories may be eligible to study in the U.S. Students who do not hold an F-1 or J-1 student status should contact the International Programs Office for rules governing enrollment while in the U.S.

Deadline for Application for Admission. To provide time for evaluation, for notice of admission status to reach the applicant, and for USICE requirements to be met for issuance of a student visa, applications and credentials should be received by the Graduate Admissions Office no later than the following dates: for fall semester, May 1; for spring semester, October 1; for summer session, March 15. (Please note: The priority application deadlines are February 1 for fall semester and summer sessions and September 1 for spring semester. Applicants who meet the priority deadline will be given early consideration for College of Graduate Studies and departmental tuition support.)
International Student Advisors. The international student advisors (ISAs) are involved with an international student’s progress at every stage of the educational process. Once a student has been admitted, the ISAs provide general information about cultural adjustment and the educational system, as well as specific details about other matters. Community contacts may be arranged, if requested. All matters pertaining to a student’s non-immigrant status with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are handled through the International Programs Office. A mandatory orientation before registration provides new students with assistance on initial questions. After this orientation, students are invited to visit the ISAs at any time with questions or concerns relating to immigration matters, education, finances, and cultural adjustment. The ISAs also serve as official liaisons between students and their consular offices or sponsoring agencies.

International Graduate Ambassador Program. The International Ambassador Program assists prospective international graduate students in learning about the University of Idaho community and culture by connecting them with current international graduate students from their home country. Ambassadors may also serve as a liaison between graduate programs and prospective international students by aiding the communication process associated with recruiting international students. The International Graduate Ambassador Program is housed within the College of Graduate Studies under the direction of the Graduate Recruitment Coordinator. Please, email uigradstudies@uidaho.edu for additional information on the International Graduate Ambassador Program.