

Accelerate Central

To encourage highly motivated and well-qualified Central Connecticut State University undergraduates to pursue graduate study at CCSU, the School of Graduate Studies offers *Accelerate Central*: a program that offers students the opportunity to complete both a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in as few as 5 years of full-time study (less if a student takes courses during the winter and summer sessions). The time needed to complete the degree will depend on the size of the degree sought and the particular curricular decisions a student makes within the program of study.

Eligibility: All CCSU students are eligible to apply to *Accelerate Central* after successful completion of 60 or more credit hours, of which at least 30 credit hours must be completed in residence (please note: students enrolled in a dual-admission program with CCSU and an in-state Community College are not subject to the residency requirement).

For acceptance into *Accelerate Central*, undergraduate students must have a GPA of 3.30 or higher (for the most recent 60 credit hours of completed study) and meet program-specific admission criteria. Please consult the undergraduate catalogue to see which programs offer an accelerated degree and the specific admissions requirements. Students must maintain a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.00 to remain in *Accelerate Central*.

Students who are accepted into *Accelerate Central* will officially matriculate into the School of Graduate Studies the semester immediately following conferral of their Bachelor's degree, even if they have already taken graduate-level courses while completing their Bachelor's. Students wishing to defer their graduate studies must notify Graduate Admissions of this decision prior to the start of the term following the conferral of their Bachelor's degree.

Benefits: Students enrolled in *Accelerate Central* dedicate themselves to the pursuit of knowledge and join the graduate school's community of scholars who pride themselves on intellectual and personal integrity, excellence, and leadership. As such, *Accelerate Central* permits students to work towards a graduate degree at an appropriate pace set by the student and his or her advisor(s).

- Students pursuing a Master's degree consisting of 30 to 33 credits may take a maximum of four graduate courses or 12 - 16 credits (i.e., 500-level courses or 400-level courses approved to confer graduate credit) while matriculated as an undergraduate. Of these four courses, up to two (i.e., 6 - 8 credits) may count for credit at both the undergraduate and graduate level.
- Students pursuing a Master's degree that consists of 34 to 49 credits may take a maximum of four graduate courses or 12 - 16 credits (i.e., 500-level courses or 400-level courses approved to confer graduate credit) while matriculated as an undergraduate. Of these four courses, up to three (i.e., 9 - 12 credits) may count for credit at both the undergraduate and graduate level.
- Students pursuing a Master's degree that consists of 50 or more credits may take a maximum of four graduate courses or 12 - 16 credits (i.e., 500-level courses or 400-level courses approved to confer graduate credit) while matriculated as an undergraduate.

Of these four courses, all four (i.e., 12 - 16 credits) may count for credit at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

- Students completing the Honors Program curriculum may take up to five graduate courses or 15-20 credits (i.e., 500-level courses or 400-level courses approved to confer graduate credit) while matriculated as an undergraduate. The double-counting provisions described above will still apply.

[The following table and approval process will not appear in the Graduate Catalogue]

Table 1: Overview of Graduate Programs by Credit Hours¹

Program of Study	Credit Hours	Number of credits that can confer graduate and undergraduate credit
Accounting	30	6 - 8
Art Education	33	6 - 8
Biological Sciences	30	6 - 8
Biomolecular Sciences	30	6 - 8
Business Administration	30	6 - 8
Strategic Communication	30-31	6 - 8
Computer Information Technology	33	6 - 8
Construction Management	33	6 - 8
Counselor Education (Clinical)	60-63	12 - 16
Counselor Education (School)	60	12 - 16
Counselor Education (Higher Education)	42-45	9 - 12
Criminal Justice	31	6 - 8
Data Science	31	6 - 8
Educational Technology	31	6 - 8
English	30	6 - 8
Geography	30	6 - 8
History	30	6 - 8
Information Design	30	6 - 8
International Studies	30	6 - 8
Marriage and Family Therapy	51	12 - 16
Mathematics for Certified Secondary Teachers	30-33	6 - 8
Modern Language	30	6 - 8
Music Education	33	6 - 8
Nursing: Hospice and Palliative Care	35	9 - 12
Online Spanish	33	6 - 8
Physical Education with Specialization in Teaching	30	6 - 8
Psychology	39	9 - 12
Public History	33	6 - 8
Reading and Language Arts	30-36	6 - 8
Software Engineering	33	6 - 8

¹ Table 1 provides information about the credits required to complete a graduate program but does not account for pre-requisite/foundational work that may be required to prior to matriculation into a graduate program.

Special Ed.: Initial Certification or Cross Endorsement	50	12 - 16
Special Ed.: Special Ed. for Teaching in Inclusion/Transition	30	6 - 8
STEM Education	33	6 - 8
Supply Chain and Logistics Management	33	6 - 8
Teacher Leadership	30	6 - 8
TESOL	30	6 - 8
MAT	49	9 - 12
Technology Management	30-33	6 - 8

To receive approval to participate in Accelerate Central, graduate programs are required to:

1. In consultation with the dean of the relevant academic school and the dean of the School of Graduate Studies, create an academic map indicating the courses taken in which semesters to produce an accelerated timeline to the Master's, and indicating the undergraduate courses substituted by graduate courses.
2. Receive Curriculum Committee and Faculty Senate approval of the curricular substitutions.
3. Create an admissions policy and receive approval from the Graduate Policy Subcommittee and the Graduate Studies Committee.