



## CONCURRENT DEGREES

No: 01-17

**Authority:** UWM Administration

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**Initiator:** Academic Policy Committee

**Responsible Party:** Registrar

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### I. Purpose

The policy establishes standards for earning double majors, concurrent bachelor's degrees, or a second bachelor's degree after graduation. The standard applies across the University and is intended to ensure that students have a strong foundation for their future endeavors. This policy supports the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee's mission of teaching and learning.

School and colleges are empowered to determine the requirements and standards related to their degree programs and their majors and minors, but these must be consistent with the University's policy standards.

As outlined in SAAP 1-1, the following definitions apply:

**Degree:** Award conferred on a student upon successful completion of a prescribed set of requirements including a course of study.

**Major:** Academic discipline in which the student's course of study is focused/specialized. Typically, the major is housed in an academic department or equivalent. . . . . When more than one department or equivalent is involved in offering the major, it is usually referred to as an interdisciplinary major. . . . .

### II. Policy

#### Degree Requirements

The minimum number of credits required for graduation for the Associate degree is 60. Bachelor's degrees require at least 120 credits, but many degree programs require more. Students should consult individual program pages in the academic catalog for the specific degree requirements associated with each program or major.

The University offers the following distinct bachelor's degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)
- Bachelor of Science (BS)
- Bachelor of Science in Engineering (BSE)

### **Earning Two Bachelor's Degrees Concurrently**

Students may earn more than one bachelor's degree by completing the graduation requirements for both degrees, including a major appropriate to each degree. The two bachelor's degrees earned must have different degree designations (i.e., BA, BBA, BFA BS, and BSE). In meeting degree requirements, the student must complete an additional 30 credits in residence for the second degree (for a minimum of 150 credits). The same General Education Requirements may be used to satisfy both degree requirements if appropriate.

Schools and colleges may make exceptions to the above policy.

The flexible option degree-completion program is not available as a concurrent degree.

Students earning more than one credential in the same degree will have multiple majors. They will not earn multiple degrees. Students should consult their school/college for more information on multiple majors in the same degree, including minimum credit requirements.

### **Earning A Second Bachelor's Degree After Graduation**

Students who have earned a first bachelor's degree from UW-Milwaukee may earn a second, distinct bachelor's degree by completing a minimum of 30 additional undergraduate credits in residence subsequent to the awarding of the first degree and by satisfying all major requirements for the second degree. Students seeking an additional major or minor in the same degree designation after having already earned that bachelor's degree from UW-Milwaukee may do so by fulfilling the requirements of the relevant college/school. Post-bachelor's activity is recorded on their academic transcript, and the subsequent credential is recorded at the time of completion.

Students with a bachelor's degree from any other accredited institution who wish to subsequently earn a bachelor's degree from UW-Milwaukee must complete a minimum of 30 additional undergraduate credits in residence at UW-Milwaukee. Transfer students must complete the requirements of the UW-Milwaukee major and have a minimum of 150 earned degree credits in total between the two degrees.

Not all degrees are eligible for completion as a second bachelor's degree. Students should consult the school/college to confirm eligibility.

It is within the purview of the school/college to determine if credits from a prior bachelor's degree can be used in part to complete an additional credential, such as a certificate, as part of the second bachelor's degree. Credit residency rules may also apply.

### **Additional information**

All students earning two bachelor's degrees need to apply and be admitted to the school/college for both degrees. They will also apply separately for graduation for each degree and pay separate graduation fees for each degree. Students cannot earn more than one associate degree either concurrently or post-graduation.