

Undergraduate-to-Graduate (U2G)

Student Handbook



IOWA

Graduate
College

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Undergraduate-to-Graduate (U2G) Programs

U2G programs provide students with the opportunity to complete an undergraduate and a graduate degree in an accelerated timeframe by counting some courses towards both degrees. They may also be referred to by such names as 4+1s, 3+2s, or fast-track programs.

The [U2G web page](#) includes information on admission and acceptance, eligibility criteria, a typical timeline for program completion, and a list of U2G programs with links to program-specific web pages.

This U2G handbook was created for students. Another version for University of Iowa faculty and staff is available upon request by writing to gradcoll@uiowa.edu.

Applying and Admissions

1. What are the eligibility criteria? Minimum eligibility requirements for U2G are set by the Graduate College and additional eligibility requirements are set by each specific U2G program. Details can be found on the [U2G web page](#) by following links to program-specific web pages.

Minimum eligibility requirements:

- Third or fourth year classification as defined by the student's primary undergraduate college
- UI cumulative GPA of 3.25 or greater at the time of admission consideration
- Blended or U2G sessions are usually completed during the senior year (i.e., senior classification/standing), double counted courses can only be earned once the student is officially in the U2G program and not before
- UI cumulative GPA of 3.00 or greater at the time the student transitions to graduate student only status (after completion of the blended or U2G year)

2. Can students from any undergraduate major apply to U2G? Some U2G programs allow students from any undergraduate major to apply. Some have specified a pairing where only students from a specific undergraduate major are eligible. Details can be found on our [U2G web page](#) by following links to program-specific web pages.

3. I do not meet the eligibility criteria. Can I still apply? Yes, the system will allow you to apply. You might also consider contacting the specific graduate degree program you are interested in to discuss your options.

4. How do I apply to U2G? You can begin the application process by visiting [UI Admissions' website and creating a regular degree application account](#). In section C of the graduate application under Education information, mark the "yes" radio button in response to the

question “Are you applying for an undergraduate/graduate combined program (U2G)?” There are no other special application procedures for U2G.

Degree:

Date: (yyyy)

ADD ANOTHER COLLEGE

Are you applying for an undergraduate/graduate combined program (U2G)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Provide your undergraduate and graduate cumulative grade-point average (GPA) and grading scale. As an international student, if you attended a US institution for Undergraduate or complete this section. Otherwise, please leave this section blank.

Undergraduate GPA:

Image description: U2G section in the graduate admissions application with the U2G question highlighted.

Double Counting U2G Courses

1. What does it look like when a course is counting for U2G credit? On your Grade Report any course which is double counted for graduate and undergraduate credit, i.e., U2G credit, will have double asterisks to the right of the grade. A footnote will state “** Applied Toward Undergraduate/Graduate Degree.”

Fall / College of Public Health / Graduate College					
Combined Degree Program					
CPH	3210	Nutrition in Public Health	3.0	A	
CPH	4230	Injury and Violence Prevention	3.0	A	
CPH	5100	Introduction to Public Health	3.0	A+	**
BIOS	4120	Introduction to Biostatistics	3.0	A-	**
CPH	3999	Undergraduate Research Experience in PH	0.0	AUS	
OEH	4240	Global Environmental Health	3.0	B	**
		Graded Hrs Att	GPA	Graded Hrs Earned	Hrs Earned
UI Term:		15.0	3.80	15.0	15.0
UI Cum:		96.0	3.59	96.0	102.0
** Applied Toward Undergraduate/Graduate Degree					
On Dean's List					

Image description: U2G student grade report with U2G courses indicated with double asterisks.

In this example CPH:3210 Nutrition in Public Health and CPH:4230 Injury and Violence Prevention do not have the double asterisks applied. Therefore these courses count for undergraduate credit only.

Some U2G programs use the footnote “** Applied Toward Graduate Degree” which indicates that although the course is being taken while the student is primarily an undergraduate, the course counts only towards the graduate degree. These courses do not count towards the undergraduate degree.

2. Which courses are eligible to count for U2G credit? Specific programs and colleges may have their own rules about which courses may count for U2G credit. The Graduate College requires that U2G courses are numbered 3000 or above, are taken during a blended semester or session

after the student is admitted to the U2G program and prior to bachelor's degree conferral (this is typically the student's senior or final year as an undergraduate), and do not exceed the maximum amount of U2G credit allowed for that program (e.g., 12 s.h., 15 s.h.).

3. Do all graduate level courses taken during blended or U2G semesters automatically count towards the graduate degree? No. The Graduate College must add the double asterisk U2G credit indicator to the course for it to count towards the graduate degree. Without the double asterisk indicator the course is counting as undergraduate credit only. This is true even for courses numbered 3000 and above that are graduate or professional level courses.

4. Can I change which courses double count for my U2G credit? Contact your specific graduate degree program to discuss your request.

5. Are U2G courses included on my graduate program degree audit? Some graduate degree programs do not have degree audits yet. For those that do, yes, U2G courses are included. Contact your program if you have questions about your graduate degree audit.

Student Status including Tuition, Fees, and Funding

1. Are U2G students assessed undergraduate or graduate tuition and fees rates? The primary program of study and curricular or instructional college for that session determines the student's tuition and fees rate. During blended or U2G semesters when students' primary program of study is an undergraduate program, they are assessed undergraduate tuition and fees according to the rates of their curricular college. After the bachelor's degree is conferred and the student has matriculated into the graduate-only portion of U2G, they are assessed graduate tuition and fees.

2. Are U2G students eligible for assistantship positions? It depends on the specific assistantship position. Graduate assistantships require graduate student status. Therefore, students are ineligible for these assistantship positions during their blended or U2G semesters when the undergraduate program of study is primary. Since many U2G students in master's programs will only be in graduate student status for one year, assistantship positions that require a two-year commitment are unlikely to be a good fit.

3. Are U2G students eligible for funding opportunities that require undergraduate or graduate student status? It depends on the specific funding opportunity and when you will use it. The primary program of study for that session determines whether you are primarily considered an undergraduate or graduate student during that session for the purposes of award eligibility.

4. How many s.h. do U2G students need to enroll in to be considered full-time? The primary student classification, undergraduate or graduate, and curricular college for that session determines whether the student is considered primarily an undergraduate or primarily a graduate student, and which full-time status policies apply.

5. Are there special registration procedures for U2G students? No, U2G students follow regular registration procedures.

6. Will I be invited to participate in Graduate College orientation as a U2G student? Yes. U2G students are invited to participate in Graduate College fall semester orientation based on their first U2G session while they are still primarily undergraduate students.

Additional Certificates and Degrees

1. Can I be a U2G student and pursue a graduate certificate? U2G students cannot be officially admitted into graduate certificate programs prior to earning the bachelor's degree. However, the U2G credit earned during the blended or U2G portion of the program is graduate credit which may later be counted toward a graduate certificate. This occurs once you are admitted to that certificate program after your bachelor's degree is conferred. Some programs have curricular guidelines for timing of certificate course completion, check with the academic program that administers the specific certificate for details. Please note that students who are admitted into a graduate certificate must complete at least one course toward that graduate certificate after admission or during the "graduate-only" portion of their U2G studies.

2. Can I be a U2G student and pursue an undergraduate certificate? U2G students may earn an undergraduate certificate while their undergraduate program of study is still primary. Once you have matriculated into the graduate-only portion of U2G you become ineligible to declare an undergraduate certificate program of study.

3. Can I be a U2G student and pursue a second bachelor's degree after completing the first bachelor's degree? Once you have matriculated into the graduate-only portion of U2G you become ineligible to declare any undergraduate program of study including a second bachelor's degree. Outside of an official U2G program there is no option to pursue both an undergraduate and a graduate program of study simultaneously.

4. Can I be a U2G student and pursue a second graduate degree? Please see the [Graduate College Manual of Rules and Regulations](#) for more information about concurrent and combined degree options and requirements and contact the specific graduate degree program(s) you are interested in to discuss further.

5. Can I be a U2G student and pursue a doctorate? Will the U2G courses also count towards the doctoral degree? If the bachelor's degree has already been conferred, you may absolutely progress from a master's degree to a doctoral program. All graduate level credit (indicated with a double asterisk on the grade report) earned during U2G will continue to count toward the doctorate as long as it is curricularly eligible, as determined by that specific doctoral program. Contact the specific doctoral degree program you are interested in to discuss further.

Special Situations

1. I would like to have additional blended or U2G semesters so I can have more time to complete my undergraduate degree. Is this allowed? Contact your specific graduate degree program to discuss your situation.

2. I would like to have only one blended or U2G semester, not two. Is this allowed? Contact your specific graduate degree program to discuss your situation.

3. I took extra graduate program courses during a blended or U2G semester beyond the maximum amount allowed for the program. Can these courses count towards the graduate degree? No. If you completed additional graduate level courses or graduate program requirements prior to conferral of the bachelor's degree, any credit more than the maximum amount of U2G credit allowed for that program **cannot** be counted as graduate credit toward the minimum number of semester hours required to earn the graduate degree. These courses count as undergraduate credit only.

4. Can I be non-registered for one semester then return to the program later? U2G was designed to be a continuous educational experience between undergraduate and graduate studies. These requests are considered on an individual basis and approval is not guaranteed. First, contact your specific graduate degree program to discuss your situation. The Graduate College requires program approval first before considering these requests. Students who seek to be non-registered immediately following conferral of the bachelor's degree need Graduate College permission to retain their U2G credits. If the request is denied and you still choose to be non-registered, your U2G credits will be revoked. This means that those courses will no longer count towards both the undergraduate and graduate degrees, instead, they will count as undergraduate credit only.

5. I have decided not to complete the program (a.k.a. discontinue U2G). How does this work? Students who discontinue before matriculating into the Graduate College only portion of the program forfeit their U2G credits. This means that those courses will no longer count towards both the undergraduate and graduate degrees, instead, they will count as undergraduate credit only. If you were to ever decide to return to UI in the future, the U2G credits cannot be applied toward other UI graduate or professional degree programs. U2G discontinuation does not affect any undergraduate degrees that have already been applied for or conferred.

6. I have another U2G question. Who should I contact? If your U2G question cannot be answered by your specific U2G program (your graduate degree program), please feel free to contact Academic Affairs in the Graduate College by writing to gradcoll@uiowa.edu.