

Graduate School

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The Graduate School at Eastern Illinois University, in consultation with the Council on Graduate Studies, establishes and monitors graduate education policies. The Graduate School also oversees the Office of International Students and Scholars, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, the Office of Study Abroad, and the University Tuition Waiver Programs. The Graduate School at Eastern Illinois University is a member of the Council of Graduate Schools, the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools, and the Illinois Association of Graduate Schools. Academic regulations differ for graduate students. Information on graduate programs, graduate admissions, graduate assistantships and other areas of graduate education may be obtained by contacting the Graduate School, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL, 61920, 217/581-2220 or <http://www.eiu.edu/~graduate>.

Graduate Study Options

Degree and Certificate Programs: Admission to the Graduate School is the first stage of admission required for all of the following degree and certificate programs:

- Master's and specialist's degree programs
- Graduate certificate programs
- Second bachelor's degree programs

Non-degree Study: Admission to the Graduate School is required for the following non-degree study options:

- Post-baccalaureate teacher licensure
- Courses for licensure, professional development, or personal goals

Application Access:

- A web application with fee payment of \$30.00 via credit card is available at: <https://www.eiu.edu/myeiu/register.php?type=3&skip=1>
- A printable application with fee payment of \$30.00 via check is available at: <http://www.eiu.edu/~graduate/pdf/admissionform.pdf>

Graduate Admission of International Applicants

International applicants may seek admission to graduate study as graduate degree candidates or as candidates for a second bachelor's degree. The admission process requires that applicants submit a complete packet of admission materials to the Office of International Students and Scholars. A complete packet includes an international application, an application fee, an approved financial affidavit form, an official raised seal transcript, any required admission test scores, and documentation of English mastery.

Application Access:

- A web application with fee payment of \$30.00 via credit card is available at: <http://www.eiu.edu/apply.php>
- A printable application with fee payment of \$30.00 via check is available at: <http://www.eiu.edu/~internt/docs/AdmissionApplication.pdf>
- An application packet is available through the Office of International Students and Scholars. Request by calling or writing The Graduate School, Division of International Students and Scholars, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL, 61920, 217/581-2321.

Graduate Degrees and Programs

College of Arts & Humanities

Master of Arts

- Art
 - + Art Education Option (online)
 - + Community Arts Option (online)
 - + Studio Art Option
- Communication Studies
 - + Community College Pedagogy Option

- English
 - + Concentrations in Literary Studies; Literary Studies with Creative Writing Emphasis; Composition/Rhetoric and Professional Writing
 - + Certificate in the Teaching of Writing
- History
 - + Historical Administration Option
 - + History with the Online Option for Teachers
- Music
 - + Concentrations in Music Education, Keyboard Performance, Instrumental Performance, Vocal Performance, Conducting, and Composition

College of Education & Professional Studies

Master of Science

- College Student Affairs
- Counseling
 - + Concentrations in Clinical Mental Health or School
- Health Promotion and Leadership
- Kinesiology and Sports Studies

Master of Science in Education

- Educational Leadership
- Elementary Education
 - + Certificate in English as a Second Language (ESL) Instruction
 - + Certificate in Reading Instruction
- Master Teacher
- Special Education

Specialist in Education

- Educational Leadership

Lumpkin College of Business & Applied Sciences

Master of Arts

- Aging Studies

Master of Business Administration

- MBA
 - + MBA with Accountancy Concentration
 - + MBA with Geographic Information Systems Option
 - + Certificate in Accountancy
- Dual Degree in MBA and Sustainable Energy
- Dual Degree in MBA and Cybersecurity

Master of Science

- Cybersecurity
- Nutrition & Dietetics
 - + Dietetic Internship Option
 - + Nutrition Education Option
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Sustainable Energy
- Talent Development
- Technology
 - + Certificate in Computer Technology
 - + Certificate in Quality Systems
 - + Certificate in Work Performance Improvement
 - + Certificate in Technology Security
- Dual Degree in Technology and Sustainable Energy

College of Sciences

Master of Science

- Biological Sciences
 - + Certificate in Geographic Information Sciences in Environmental Life Sciences
- Biochemistry and Biotechnology
- Chemistry
- Communication Disorders and Sciences
- Dual Degree in Biological Sciences and Sustainable Energy
- Dual Degree in Geographic Information Sciences and Sustainable Energy
- Natural Sciences
 - + Professional Science Masters in Geographic Information Services
 - + Concentrations in Biological Sciences and Physical Sciences
 - Physical Sciences concentration includes emphases in Chemistry, Geology/Geography, and Physics

Master of Arts

- Clinical Psychology
- Economics
 - + Track in Monetary Economics and Financial Markets
- Mathematics
 - + Elementary/Middle School Mathematics Education Option
 - + Secondary Mathematics Education Option
- Political Science
 - + Option in Public Administration/Public Policy
 - + Certificate in Public Planning

Specialist

- School Psychology

Resources to Support Graduate Research/Creative Activity

The Graduate School sponsors a broad range of competitive awards programs to promote and support graduate research/creative activity. Application materials, guidelines, timelines, selection procedures, and award levels are available through Graduate Coordinators in academic programs and at the following web site: http://www.eiu.edu/~graduate/students_awards_competitivestudent.php.

Graduate School Research/Creative Activity Grants Competition: This program provides financial support for outstanding graduate research and creative activity projects that include opportunities for graduate students to partner with external businesses, industries, or educational agencies to foster improvements and development of new creative ideas.

- Williams Travel Grants: Named in honor of a former Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Larry Williams, Williams Travel Grants provide travel support for EIU graduate degree-seeking candidates who have papers or creative works accepted for presentation at regional, state, or national conferences.
- Robert and Kathryn Augustine Distinguished Master's Thesis Award and Award of Excellence Competition: The Robert and Kathryn Augustine Distinguished Master's Thesis Award Competition provides recognition of the highest achievement in master's degree research. The selected project may be eligible for the University's nomination for competition in the Midwest Association of Graduate School's Distinguished Thesis Competition. The EIU Master's Thesis Award of Excellence provides recognition of the second highest achievement in master's degree research based on those candidates who are nominated for the Robert and Kathryn Augustine Distinguished Master's Thesis Award Competition.
- Hamand Society Scholars: Named in honor of the first dean of The Graduate School, Dr. Lavern Hamand, the Hamand Society recognizes degree-seeking graduate candidates nominated from among the class of Distinguished Graduate Students whose achievements in both scholarship and service have had a documented impact on the discipline and the community. The quality and impact of the scholarship and service achievements of Hamand Society Scholars reflect the highest ideals of the engaged graduate student.
- The King-Mertz Distinguished Research/Creative Activity Award: Recognition of the highest achievement in graduate research based on non-thesis graduate research/creative activity projects required for a degree.
- Graduate Exposition and Distinguished Graduate Students Awards Ceremony: Co-hosted by the Graduate Student Advisory Council and the Graduate School, the Graduate Exposition and Distinguished Graduate Students Awards Ceremony provide a forum during the spring term to showcase the research creative activity of graduate students. The Awards Ceremony provides formal recognition of the achievements of graduate students who have distinguished themselves through scholarship, research, or leadership.

Graduate Study Options for Seniors at EIU

Reserve Graduate Credit

An EIU senior may apply for permission to take graduate level courses numbered 4750 through 5499 for reserve graduate credit. Senior classification is defined as having completed at least 90 semester hours of undergraduate course work at the time of enrollment. Seniors must have earned a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher to qualify for reserve graduate credit. Permission from the instructor of the course(s) and the Graduate Dean is required. Applications for reserve graduate credit are available in The Graduate School or at the following web site: <http://www.eiu.edu/~graduate/pdf/gradstudyoptions.pdf> and must be signed and on file in The Graduate School by the deadline to add courses as published in the Class Schedule. Reserve graduate credit is limited to a maximum of 9 semester hours and cannot be used in any way for fulfilling the requirements for the undergraduate degree. Students enrolled in courses numbered 4750 through 4999 for reserve graduate credit are expected to meet the requirements for graduate credit. Undergraduates, regardless of classification or GPA, may not enroll in any graduate courses numbered 5500 or above. This requirement may not be waived or appealed.

Graduate Courses for Undergraduate Credit

An EIU senior may apply for permission to take graduate courses numbered 5000 through 5499 to apply toward an undergraduate degree. Senior classification is defined as having completed at least 90 semester hours of undergraduate course work at the time of enrollment. Seniors must have earned a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher to qualify for enrollment in graduate courses. Permission from the instructor of the course(s) and the Graduate Dean is required. Applications granting permission to take graduate courses are available in The Graduate School or on the web site: <http://www.eiu.edu/~graduate/pdf/gradstudyoptions.pdf> and must be signed and on file in The Graduate School by the deadline to add courses as published in the Class Schedule. Undergraduates, regardless of classification or GPA, may not enroll in any graduate course numbered 5500 or above. This requirement may not be waived or appealed.

Honors Students

An EIU honors student who has less than 90 semester hours of completed course work at the time he or she wishes to register may apply to waive the 90-semester hour policy. Waiver forms are available at: <http://www.eiu.edu/~graduate/forms/90semesterhourpolicywaiver.html>.

Waiver of the policy will allow the honors student to enroll for the desired graduate level courses. In order to be eligible for this waiver option, the student must verify his or her status as an honors student. IN addition, the student must provide evidence that he or she is currently enrolled in a sufficient number of semester hours to meet the 90-semester hour regulations at the conclusion of the current term. The student must meet the 2.75 GPA criteria as this policy may not be waived or appealed. If the waiver is approved, but the honors student fails to complete a sufficient number of semester hours in the current term to meet the 90 semester hour regulation, the Graduate School will remove the student from the approved courses after the 10th day enrollment roster is provided.

Financial Aid

Graduate Assistantships

Graduate Assistantships are available in departments/schools offering graduate programs. Applications and additional information are available through the Graduate School or through individual program offices.

Loans and Work Study

Perkins Loans and Work Study positions are available to students who qualify on the basis of financial need. Contact the Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships for more information. Information on the Guaranteed Loan Program is available through the lending institution.

Scholarships

Military scholarships and unused portions of Teachers Education Scholarships may be applied to graduate study. A variety of special awards, scholarships, and international student scholarships are also available for graduate study. Several awards are highlighted below. Applicants should consult the Graduate Catalog for detailed information on other awards.

- The Betty Wright Downing Scholarship. Established by Mr. and Mrs. Harry T. Wright in memory of Betty Wright Downing, this scholarship is presented annually to a graduate student at Eastern Illinois University who is preparing for a career in medicine or a health related field. Apply to the Dean of the Graduate School.
- Frances Meyer Hampton Graduate Scholarship. Established by Mrs. Frances Meyer Hampton in her estate, this award is presented annually to a full-time student in a master's degree program who has demonstrated good character, high scholarship ability, financial need, and a potential for worthy future achievement. Apply to the Dean of the Graduate School.
- International Graduate Student Scholarships. International graduate student scholarships are based primarily on academic achievement and potential and are intended to promote cultural exchange and diversity. Completion of an application does not guarantee a scholarship. Apply to the Office of International Students and Scholars.

International Programs

See the Study Abroad section of the catalog.