

University of Maine Four Plus One Policy

3.3.3 Four + One Masters degrees

Core requirements:

1. The masters program must have unfilled capacity (seats available in required classes so that the program can be instituted without opening new sections).

2. This program is intended for non-thesis masters programs only.

3. The sponsoring unit must develop a curriculum that can feasibly be completed in the indicated time frame (15 months following matriculation in master's program).

Proposed four + one programs must be submitted to the Graduate School for review and recommendation by the Executive Committee and the Graduate Board. Approved programs will be transmitted to the Provost for final approval.

4. Students would be admitted conditionally during the junior year (those who have completed at least 60 but no more than 100 credit hours applicable towards graduation). Students complete an application for the Four + One program supplied by the academic unit and submit it directly to that unit rather than the Graduate School. To be admitted, students must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher in order to double-count graduate courses towards both their undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Lesser GPAs may be established by individual programs for admission to Four + One programs if double counting of courses is not involved. The faculty advisor or graduate coordinator must work with the student to create a plan of study that leads to graduation within 15 months after matriculation in the master's program. The program of study and the provisional admission must be communicated to the Graduate School, and the student must make a formal application through the Graduate School during the senior year for admission to the Masters program.

5. During the senior year, provisionally admitted students would take up to 9 credits of graduate-level courses toward the masters degree. These courses would also count towards the bachelors degree (joint credits), but must be part of the Master's Program of Study.

6. Upon graduation with a bachelors degree, and with satisfactory performance (defined as 3.5 cumulative GPA and no grade below "B" in the courses to be double-counted for the masters degree) in courses taken as an undergraduate, the student may be formally matriculated into the masters program. Students who meet these requirements must matriculate in their masters program within 3 months after receiving their bachelors degree in order to use the joint credits. Under extraordinary circumstances, a student may petition to delay matriculation up to an additional 12 months