

## BACKGROUND

IUPUI currently offers a number of accelerated programs where a student completes requirements for a degree or for two degrees in a shorter than standard amount of time. Some programs are designed so the student receives a Bachelor's degree in less than four years; others are set up for students to initially aspire to complete both an undergraduate and graduate degree in a shortened period. Often referred to as '3 + 2' or '4 + 1' programs, these Bachelors + Masters programs result in the student earning both degrees in less time (and at a reduced cost) which makes them attractive.

There are currently no consistencies in how IUPUI accelerated programs are administered throughout campus. The goal of this document is to outline the differences and recommend a standard and consistent message with regards to admission, registration, financial aid impacts, and billing for students participating in accelerated programs as a means to establish campus best practices.

The development of accelerated programs is consistent with the IUPUI Strategic Plan objectives of promoting undergraduate student learning and success and increasing the capacity for graduate education. With our focus on students, the 4 + 1 design is the preferred model since maximizes the students' ability to receive financial aid and minimizes the overall cost of the degree. Both models are presented for the purpose of comparison.

***NOTE:** This document & discussion only addresses INTERNAL IUPUI accelerated programs (and not any 'external' program where a student is earning two degrees concurrently at another institution like Butler, UIndy, Franklin, etc.)*

### Definitions & Cohort focus:

**Accelerated Programs:** Completion of a college program of study in fewer than the usual number of years, most often by attending summer sessions and carrying extra courses during the regular academic term. (<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary/?charindex=A>)

**Accelerated Bachelors/Masters Programs:** At IUPUI, these are defined as those programs in which academically qualified students earn both a bachelor's degree AND a master's degree in a shorter timeframe than if pursued independently. A set number of credits apply to both undergraduate and graduate requirements.

\*There may be exceptions to the recommendations below. Those would need to be addressed in any program proposal as new accelerated options are created. \*

NOTE: Once a decision is made on how IUPUI accelerated program should be administered, we then also need to address converting the current programs where students are registering in separate UG and Grad careers at the same time. This model reduces students' eligibility for financial aid, requires manual intervention on the part of the Bursar, and

# BEST PRACTICES FOR ACCELERATED PROGRAMS



Office of the Registrar – 2015

complicates the administration of financial aid resulting in an increased potential for non-compliance with federal and state regulations.

# BEST PRACTICES FOR ACCELERATED PROGRAMS



Office of the Registrar – 2015

## RECOMMENDATIONS UNIQUE TO STUDENTS IN ACCELERATED PROGRAMS

	Overall Comments	Expanded Comments on Each Model	
		4 + 1 model	3 + 2 model
What are the Accelerated Program Options?	<p>Departments must choose one of the options below per program and all students participating in the program will follow that same model.</p> <p>Two options:</p> <p><b>Option A:</b> 4 + 1 model allows 1<sup>st</sup> four years of enrollment under UGRD career with 5<sup>th</sup> year occurring under the GRAD career.</p> <p><b>Option B:</b> 3 + 2 model allows 1<sup>st</sup> three years of enrollment under UGRD career with years 4 + 5 occurring under the GRAD career.</p>	<p>4-year graduation rates will be positively affected as these students will be conferred their Bachelor's degree in year 4 while being on their way to the Masters</p> <p>UGRD: Year 1 – Year 4 GRAD: Year 5</p> <p>Enrolling in only one career per term will positively impact financial aid processing, streamline bursar billing, provide consistent enrollment verification reporting (full time vs part time), and a more logical registration for the students involved.</p>	<p>4-year graduation rates will be positively affected as these students will be conferred their Bachelor's degree in year 4 while being on their way to the Masters</p> <p>UGRD: Year 1 – Year 3 GRAD: Year 4 – Year 5</p> <p>Enrolling in only one career per term will positively impact financial aid processing, streamline bursar billing, and provide consistent enrollment verification reporting (full time vs part time), and a more logical registration for the students involved.</p>
WHEN & HOW DOES A STUDENT APPLY?	<p>There are two application steps: 1) applying to the IUPUI accelerated program at time of admission to IUPUI; 2) applying to the graduate school for completion of graduate program</p> <p>For either model, student will initially apply to the accelerated program via the standard UG Admissions application with the understanding that their performance in the UG portion of the program will dictate whether they will be admitted to the graduate program.</p> <p>Student will be evaluated by the Graduate School for entrance into the graduate portion of the accelerated program.</p> <p>There will be a unique accelerated option available</p>	<p>Allows for publicizing these accelerated programs in all UG admissions publications, etc.</p> <p>During senior year (Year 4) student will need to submit the Graduate School eApp online to officially 'apply' to the graduate degree portion of the program.</p> <p>If student does not meet requirements of the graduate school or decides they no longer want to pursue grad program, recorder will move student to "regular" UG program so student would still be able to complete the UG degree.</p> <p>The academic unit can determine if students who were not initially admitted</p>	<p>Allows for publicizing these accelerated programs in all UG admissions publications, etc.</p> <p>During junior year, student would need to submit Graduate School eApp online to officially 'apply' to the graduate degree portion of the program.</p> <p>If student does not meet requirements of the graduate school or decides they no longer want to pursue grad program, recorder will move student to "regular" UG program so student would still be able to complete the UG degree.</p>

# BEST PRACTICES FOR ACCELERATED PROGRAMS



Office of the Registrar – 2015

	<p>within both the UG and Graduate eApp for the student to select that will create a unique program plan stack at the appropriate career for easier tracking of these populations.</p> <p>NOTE: While different graduate departments or programs may establish unique criteria for admittance into and continuation in an accelerated program, a minimum 3.0 GPA is required for entrance into IUPUI graduate-level programs and will be enforced.</p>	<p>into the accelerated degree program can apply for admission after the freshman year. The student would still be required to complete the application for the graduate degree portion of curriculum.</p>	
HOW DOES THE STUDENT REGISTER?	<p>Student would be eligible to register under only ONE career per term through Self-Service.</p>	<p>Best use of financial aid awards if registered in only one career</p> <p>Avoids duplicate ancillary fees on Bursar side</p> <p>Easier for enrollment reporting (1/2 time, full-time)</p> <p>More logical registration process</p> <p>If needed, departments will be able to grant permission to those who are UGRD during year 4 but need to enroll in GRAD classes</p>	<p>Best use of financial aid awards if registered in only one career</p> <p>Avoids duplicate ancillary fees on Bursar side</p> <p>Easier for enrollment reporting (1/2 time, full-time)</p> <p>More logical registration process</p> <p>Once admitted to the Grad career in at the beginning of year 4, student able to register without any additional intervention into any required UG classes</p>
HOW ARE THESE STUDENTS TRACKED?	<p>Will be put into a unique program plan that identifies them in the accelerated program both at the UG and Grad level at the appropriate times.</p>	<p>Will be able to appropriately track these students as both UGRD and GRAD accelerated program students separately from other students pursuing the same degrees in a non-accelerated format</p>	<p>Will be able to appropriately track these students as both UGRD and GRAD accelerated program students separately from other students pursuing the same degrees in a non-accelerated format</p>
WHAT ARE THE FINANCIAL AID IMPACTS ON THE STUDENT?		<p>Allows for gift aid eligibility as state and federal financial aid options (i.e. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars, Pell Grant, O'Bannon aware) are available only to UG students so in this model maximizes the availability of</p>	<p>Makes awarding of state and federal grants more difficult after year three since student would move to graduate career for years 4 and 5</p>

# BEST PRACTICES FOR ACCELERATED PROGRAMS



Office of the Registrar – 2015

		<p>gift aid for those eligible for 4 years</p> <p>Discourages higher borrowing totals as lower graduate loan limits will not be offered until final year</p>	<p>Enables the possibility of higher borrowing at the graduate level for 2 years instead of one</p>
WHAT ARE FINANCIAL IMPACTS TO THE ACADEMIC UNIT		<p>Results in decreased revenue for enrolled graduate courses as students will be paying UG tuition for some Grad level courses during year 4</p>	<p>Results in decreased revenue for UGRD departments but maintains 2 years of GRAD level revenue since students will be paying Grad tuition for 2 years</p>
WHEN ARE DEGREES CONFERRED?	<p>In both models: UGRD degree is conferred at the end of year 4</p> <p>GRAD degree conferred at the end of year 5</p>	<p>Institution receives credit towards four-year graduation rate</p> <p>Close monitoring of undergraduate degree requirement completion is essential to ensure student remains on track for 4 year graduation</p> <p>UGRD degree is conferred at the end of year 4</p> <p>GRAD degree conferred at the end of year 5</p>	<p>Institution receives credit towards four-year graduation rate</p> <p>Close monitoring of undergraduate degree requirement completion is essential to ensure student remains on track for 4 year graduation</p> <p>UGRD degree is conferred at the end of year 4</p> <p>GRAD degree conferred at the end of year 5</p>
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	<p>Degree maps required for each of these programs by legislative mandate so accelerated programs should have established plans of study/degree maps available for all programs.</p> <p>Students must be accepted into the accelerated program before taking graduate courses, particularly for Purdue degrees.</p> <p>Transcript statistics (GPA, total credits, etc.) will reflect the courses taken under each separate career – meaning that there will be some graduate courses factored into UGRD statistics if taken while an UGRD and potentially UGRD courses calculated into the GRAD career GPA (depending on the 4 + 1 vs. 3 + 2 option).</p> <p>Students would need to know to always request a complete transcript that includes both UGRD and GRAD work.</p> <p>Perhaps introduce an Accelerated Program Fee to offset financial concerns for loss of graduate program revenue for the 4+1 model.</p>		

# BEST PRACTICES FOR ACCELERATED PROGRAMS



Office of the Registrar – 2015

	Using the unique plan set up we will be able to track and determine which students entered directly from high school as opposed to those who enter the program later in the course of their undergraduate career.
--	---

# BEST PRACTICES FOR ACCELERATED PROGRAMS



Office of the Registrar – 2015

Accelerated Program	Credit Hours (towards BS & Masters)	Comparison of cost difference in Year 4 (In-State Rate)			Comparison of cost difference in Year 4 (Out-of-State Rate)			Grad rate used
		Undergrad In-State Costs	Grad In-State Costs	Income Difference per In-State student	Undergrad Out-of-State Costs	Grad Out-of-State Costs	Income Difference per Out-of-State student	
BS in Computer Engr & MS in Elec and Comp Engr	9 cr hrs (500 level or above)--3 cr hrs Math & 6 crs hrs ECE	\$ 2,402.55	\$ 3,362.85	(\$960.30)	\$ 8,618.22	\$ 9,617.67	\$ (999.45)	Engr
BS/MS in Electrical Engr & Computer Engr	9 cr hrs (500 level or above)--3 cr hrs Math & 6 crs hrs ECE	\$ 2,402.55	\$ 3,362.85	(\$960.30)	\$ 8,618.22	\$ 9,617.67	\$ (999.45)	Engr
BS/MS in Mechanical Engineering	12 cr hrs as ME electives during 4th year	\$ 3,203.40	\$ 4,483.80	(\$1,280.40)	\$ 11,490.96	\$ 12,823.56	\$ (1,332.60)	Engr
Informatics BS/Bioinformatics MS	12 cr hrs as INFO during 4th year	\$ 3,203.40	\$ 4,068.12	(\$864.72)	\$ 11,490.96	\$ 11,492.40	\$ (1.44)	all other grad
Informatics BS/Health Info MS	12 cr hrs as INFO during 4th year	\$ 3,203.40	\$ 4,068.12	(\$864.72)	\$ 11,490.96	\$ 11,492.40	\$ (1.44)	all other grad
Informatics BS/HCI MS	12 cr hrs as INFO during 4th year	\$ 3,203.40	\$ 4,068.12	(\$864.72)	\$ 11,490.96	\$ 11,492.40	\$ (1.44)	all other grad
Media Arts & Sci BS/HCI MS	15 cr hrs as INFO during 4th year	\$ 4,004.25	\$ 5,085.15	(\$1,080.90)	\$ 14,363.70	\$ 14,365.50	\$ (1.80)	all other grad
Biology BA/Forensic Science MS	need more info on requirements in 4th year			\$ -			\$ -	
Chemistry BA/Forensic Science MS	need more info on requirements in 4th year			\$ -			\$ -	
Computer Science BS/MS	9 cr hrs (500 level or above) CSCI	\$ 2,402.55	\$ 3,051.09	(\$648.54)	\$ 8,618.22	\$ 8,619.30	\$ (1.08)	all other grad
Geology BS/MS	need more info on requirements in 4th year			\$ -			\$ -	
Philosophy BA/MA	12 cr hrs Philosophy	\$ 3,203.40	\$ 4,068.12	(\$864.72)	\$ 11,490.96	\$ 11,492.40	\$ (1.44)	all other grad
Economics BA/MA	need more info on requirements in 4th year			\$ -			\$ -	
Political Science BA/MA	9 hrs (Pols-Y 490, Pols-Y 570 & Pols-Y 580)	\$ 2,402.55	\$ 3,051.09	(\$648.54)	\$ 8,618.22	\$ 8,619.30	\$ (1.08)	all other grad
Physics BS/MSME	21 hours=Phys 3 hours, ME 6 hours, Eng or Phys 6 hrs, Math 6 hrs	\$ 5,605.95	\$ 7,846.65	(\$2,240.70)	\$ 20,109.18	\$ 22,445.43	\$ (2,336.25)	Engr
Biology BS/Bioinformatics MS	need more info on requirements in 4th year			\$ -			\$ -	