

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND REVIEW OF ACCELERATED GRADUATE DEGREES.

Rationale for and summary of revisions:

Summary of Proposed Changes to Current Policies

1. Terminology was changed to utilize “accelerated graduate degrees,” to allow for application of this policy for accelerated degrees to select doctoral degrees, in addition to master’s degrees. Reducing the total investment of years to complete graduate education improves accessibility and reduces the total cost of education; both benefits are consistent with the university’s access mission.
2. Terminology was changed from double-counted credits to shared credits to achieve improved transparency in how credits are used for both degrees. We anticipate this may also be less concerning for accreditors of professional doctoral programs than the previous language of double counting.
3. An upper limit of backward shared credits for a high-credit graduate degree was set at 30 credits. This value reflects an average number of undergraduate credits taken in an academic year.
4. The use of the *Graduate Transfer Credit Evaluation Form* was specified for the transfer of both forward and backward shared credits. Previously this form was only used for forward counting (graduate degree); this change to using this for both forward and backward credit sharing reduces student confusion related to forms they are responsible for completing.
5. The governance steps for review of a proposed new accelerated graduate degree with 2 existing degrees within UWM were revised to allow for flexibility in the order of review by APCC and GCC. This change accommodates committee work, particularly at high volume times in the academic year. Substantive changes by either committee must, however, be reviewed by the other committee prior to advancing the proposal to the Provost.
6. Clarification that the academic home for a UWM accelerated graduate degree is the graduate degree program offering the accelerated graduate degree path.

Approval history of this policy:

DOCUMENT APPROVAL HISTORY

Graduate Faculty Committee.....	November 21, 2022
Graduate Curriculum Committee (informational).....	December 1, 2022
Academic Program and Curriculum Committee.....	December 12, 2022
Faculty Codification Committee.....	January 12, 2023

