

Systems Design Engineering
BAsC / MASc
Accelerated Master's Program

UW undergraduate students who have demonstrated academic excellence and/or research potential and have achieved an overall G.P.A of *at least* 75% or higher in their last two years of study are encouraged to apply for the Accelerated Master's Program before the end of their 3B term. The final fourth year of undergraduate studies will be reviewed upon its completion and prior to formal admission to the MASc program to verify academic standing and eligibility.

Information about the Accelerated Master's Program is detailed in the Graduate Studies Calendar, <http://gradcalendar.uwaterloo.ca/page/FacEng-Accelerated-Masters-Program>, and here, <http://gradcalendar.uwaterloo.ca/page/GSO-Accelerated-Masters>.

Procedure:

Admission to the Accelerated Master's Program is essentially a two-stage process.

- 1) Students must have an approved supervisor to be admitted to the MASc program. To initiate the process, students in their 3B term or sooner should contact faculty members working in the research area that they would like to pursue. Discussion should include research interests, the faculty member's willingness to act as the MASc supervisor, and the student's eligibility for admission.

The intended supervisor should provide a memo addressed to the Department Admissions Coordinator which:

- details the student's eligibility for the accelerated program;
- specifies the two specific graduate courses to be completed in the 4A and 4B terms as *extra* status (for eventual transfer to the MASc program). Note: Maximum of one 500-level course;
- specifies the minimum required grades for each of the extra courses;
- confirms the term in which the student is expected to begin the MASc program (immediately following completion of the BAsC program);
- is signed by the supervisor, student, and both the Undergraduate and Graduate Associate Chairs.

It is recommended that students consult with the department's Undergraduate Coordinator to verify that taking extra courses for credit toward the MASc program will not interfere with the requirements of the BAsC program and to ensure that the proper *extra* status designation is used to enrol in the extra courses (designator, NRNA). Courses counted toward one degree cannot be transferred toward another degree.

The signed memo should be handed in to the Admissions Coordinator for processing. Once the accelerated program is formally approved at the Department and Faculty levels, confirmation will be emailed to the student, supervisor, Undergrad and Graduate Coordinators, and Undergrad and Graduate Associate Chairs.

- 2) In accordance with the department graduate application deadlines, students must formally apply for the MASc program online through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) *at least* two weeks before the applicable deadline (to allow sufficient time for the uploading of supporting documents) <https://uwaterloo.ca/systems-design-engineering/future-graduate-students>. Students must also email the Admissions Coordinator to advise her that you were admitted to the Accelerated Master's Program and that your application to the MASc program has been submitted to OUAC.

Once your MASc application is complete and the Admissions Coordinator is able to verify that the minimum admission requirements have been met, an offer of admission will be issued through QUEST which will specify any conditions to be met, i.e.) successful completion of the BAsC degree and extra courses.

Contacts:

[Amanda Taves, Admissions Coordinator](#); [Vicky Lawrence, Graduate Coordinator](#); [Kristen Deckert, Undergraduate Coordinator](#); [John Zelek, Graduate Associate Chair](#); [Paul Calamai, Undergraduate Associate Chair](#)