



# Program Approval Form

For approval of new programs and deletions or modifications to an existing program.

Registrar.

**Action Requested:**

Create New (SCHEV approval required except for concentration, minors, and certificates)  
 Delete Existing  
 Modify Existing (check all that apply)  
 Title (SCHEV approval required except for concentration, minors, certificates)  
 Degree Requirements  Admission Standards  
 Application Requirements  
 Other Changes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type (Check one):**

B.A.  B.S.  Minor  
 Undergraduate Certificate  
 M.A.  M.S.  M.Ed.  
 Ph.D.  Graduate Certificate  
 Concentration  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**College/School:**  **Department:**   
**Submitted by:**  **Ext:**  **Email:**

**Effective Term:** Fall  **Please note:** For students to start a new degree, minor, certificate or concentration, the program must be fully approved, entered into Banner, and published in the University Catalog.

**Justification:** (attach separate document if necessary)

**Program Title:** (Required)  
Use title to identify subject matter. Do not include name of college/school or department.

**Concentration Title(s):**

**Admissions Standards / Application Requirements:**  
(Required only if different from those listed in the University Catalog)

**Degree Requirements:**  
Consult University Catalog for models, attach separate document if necessary using track changes for modifications

**Courses offered via Distance:**  
(if applicable)

**TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED:**

Existing	New/Modified
Biology BS/MS	Biology BS/MS
<b>Biology, Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree</b>	<b>Biology, Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree</b>
See attached	See attached

## Approval Signatures

Department \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ College/School \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Provost's Office \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
*Required for Undergraduate Programs Only*

If this program may impact another unit or is in collaboration with another unit at Mason, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date

### For Graduate Programs Only

## **Biology, Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degree**

Qualified undergraduates may be admitted to an accelerated master's program and obtain both a BS and an MS within an accelerated time frame. This program is open only to those students who wish to pursue the master's degree concentrations in microbiology or molecular biology. Students admitted to this program may take graduate courses after completing 90 undergraduate credits, and up to 6 credits of graduate work may be used in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the undergraduate degree. If students earn at least a 3.0 in these classes, they are granted advanced standing in the master's program and must then complete an additional 24 credits to receive the master's degree. All other master's degree requirements must be met, including a minimum of 18 credits taken for the master's after the bachelor's degree is complete.

Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.0 may apply for provisional acceptance to the accelerated master's program after completing BIOL 213, 214, 308, 310 and 311; and CHEM 313, 314, 315 and 318. Three letters of recommendation, including one from a prospective thesis or project advisor, are required.

After completing 120 credits and all requirements for the bachelor's degree and filing the Graduation Intent Form, students are awarded a bachelor's degree. Accelerated master's students must then submit scores on the GRE and biology subject exam to have the provisional qualifier removed. Ordinarily, students should receive a minimum combined score of 1,100 on the verbal and quantitative portions of the general test and be in at least the 50th percentile on the subject exam.

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