

Accelerated Bachelors to Masters Pathway Proposal Form

Proposal Submission Instructions: Proposals should be submitted in *Curriculog* by selecting the “Program: New Academic Program/Program Reactivation” Form. Within that form, select “ABM” under “Proposed Program.” Upload this completed form to the files to attach it to the proposal. You will need to complete this process twice within *Curriculog*, selecting “undergraduate” for the level for the first proposal and “graduate” for the level for the second proposal. This will route the proposal to both the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Council simultaneously.

ABM pathways are developed in consultation with the College of Graduate Studies and the Vice Provost for Academic Programs. In addition, ABM pathways must be approved by BOTH the university undergraduate curriculum committee and the graduate council.

ABM Pathway Proposals must include:

- Degree learning outcomes, rationale for course articulation and sequence
- ABM Pathway admission requirements
- Student retention and withdrawal policies
- Designation of the ABM Pathway director (must have graduate faculty status)

THIS ARTICULATION AGREEMENT is between Middle Tennessee State University’s _____ Undergraduate Program and _____ Graduate Program. The parties enter into an agreement in which highly qualified students in the MTSU Undergraduate Program noted above will be eligible for admission to an Accelerated Bachelor’s to Master’s (ABM) pathway; automatic admission to the MTSU Graduate Program, and articulated course credits from the MTSU Graduate Program to complete the Undergraduate Program, according to the terms contained in this Agreement. Grades earned in ABM-approved graduate courses will be used to calculate both undergraduate and graduate GPA.

1. Pathway courses / Program of study

Following are the major program requirements for the MTSU Bachelor of _____ program and the _____ Graduate Program equivalent courses which will be credited toward the Undergraduate Program. A grade of B or higher is required for all graduate courses that satisfy ABM pathway requirements.

Credit hours in the ABM Pathway. ABM pathways must contain the minimum number of unique credit hours for a bachelor’s degree (120) plus the minimum number of unique credit hours for a master’s degree (30).

Number of Graduate Credit Hours Needed to Earn a Master’s Degree	Number of ABM-Approved Graduate Credit Hours Allowed
30	0
33	3
36	6
39	9
42 or more	12

Total number of Credit hours in Undergraduate Program: _____

Total number of credit hours in Graduate Program: _____

Total number of credit hours in ABM Pathway: _____

To ensure program integrity, acceptable graduate courses should be selected from the program's core or guided electives in the master's degree program. Thesis credit hours may not be used.

Undergraduate Program Requirements		
MTSU Undergraduate Course	MTSU Graduate Course	Credit Hours

Provide a rationale for the courses listed. For each undergraduate course requirement, identify the learning outcomes and how the undergraduate learning outcomes are satisfied by the graduate course.

Explain how the undergraduate and graduate program outcomes will be tracked specifically for ABM pathway students to demonstrate that the outcomes for ABM students are equivalent to their non-ABM peers at both levels (disaggregated data from their Bachelor's and Master's cohorts).

2. ABM Pathway admission requirement

Minimum Admission Standards for an ABM Pathway

To be eligible, a student must:

- have completed 75 undergraduate credits;
- have completed a minimum of 24 credit hours at MTSU;
- have a minimum of two semesters remaining at MTSU; and
- an inclusive GPA of 3.25 or higher.

List any additional admission requirements:

Admission to the ABM Pathway is handled by the ABM Pathway Coordinator in the Department. Once a student has been selected for the ABM Pathway, the ABM coordinator will fill out an ABM form with the student and the College of Graduate Studies will properly code the student within Banner.

3. Graduate Program admission requirements

An ABM student who successfully completes the Pathway will then need to apply to the College of Graduate Studies under the specified program. The application requirements will then be waived, and the student will automatically be admitted to the program.

Upon acceptance to the MTSU Graduate Program, students will be considered graduate students and will pay graduate tuition for all remaining graduate courses.

4. Student retention and withdrawal policies

a. **Withdrawal from the Undergraduate ABM Pathway.** A student may withdraw from an ABM Pathway at any time by informing the ABM Pathway Coordinator and respective undergraduate program and graduate program coordinators (or designees) in writing of her/his intent to withdraw. Withdrawal is considered permanent, and a student who withdraws may not re-enter the same ABM Pathway.

b. **Dismissal from the ABM Pathway.** Students will be dismissed from an ABM Pathway for failure to maintain satisfactory levels of academic progress, which includes:

1. Failure to meet the general ABM Pathway guidelines and specific program requirements.
2. Failure to maintain an overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher in any term.
3. Interruption of the undergraduate course of study for more than three terms, without the prior consent of the undergraduate and graduate program coordinators (or designees).

A student who either withdraws or is removed from an ABM Pathway may apply to the College of Graduate Studies for admission to a graduate program, but will do so as a typical applicant and provide all application materials required of other non-ABM Pathway students. Such students may still count the graduate credit they earn toward the completion of their undergraduate requirements, but may only use these courses toward their graduate degree requirements with the approval of the graduate program coordinator, provided the minimum grade was met.

A grade of B or higher is required for all graduate courses that satisfy ABM pathway requirements.

5. ABM Pathway director/coordinator

The ABM Pathway coordinator is responsible for student recruitment, advising, Pathway monitoring and reporting of ABM Pathway student success.

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

APPROVED (signatures):

Department Chair(s) _____

College Dean(s) _____

Note that this proposal will be attached to both an undergraduate and graduate curriculum proposal in Curriculog. The signatures here are meant to indicate approval of all programs involved before the proposal moves forward through the curriculum process in which it is possible that some parties may not have the opportunity to review it.