

Provisional Admission Policies for Incomplete/Insufficient Baccalaureate Degrees

1. Bachelor's Degree Equivalency

- a. An applicant for admission may be considered to have the educational equivalent of a baccalaureate degree if one of the following is demonstrated:
 - i. The applicant holds a bachelor's degree from an unaccredited and/or unrecognized college or university where it can be demonstrated that actual courses were taken and academic credit was awarded. Each institution's curriculum will be subject to the admission's committee evaluation.
 - ii. The applicant has accumulated 120 semester hours or more in one or more accredited and/or recognized undergraduate or graduate programs, provided that at least one-third of the hours accumulated are at or above the junior-year level (of a four-year program).
 - iii. The applicant holds one associate's degree (sixty plus hours) from an accredited and/or recognized program along with at least forty additional semester hours at or above the junior-year level (of a four-year program) in one or more undergraduate or graduate programs where it can be demonstrated that actual courses were taken and academic credit was awarded.
- b. Applicants in this category will be considered for provisional admission only. Provisional admission will be re-assessed after 9 hours. If the applicant has a minimum of a 3.0 GPA, the student will be granted admission.
- c. Applicants for non-degree admission must also meet other admission requirements.

2. "The Fifteen Percent Rule"

- a. The accrediting standards of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) give member schools discretion to admit as many as fifteen percent of candidates into a professional master's degree program (i.e., MDiv or MACM) who do not possess a bachelor's degree or its educational equivalent provided that the school can demonstrate by some objective means that such persons possess the knowledge, academic skills, and ability generally associated with persons who hold the baccalaureate degree.
- b. In addition to factors such as professional experience, technical school experience, military service, continuing education units, church or ministry service, and/or any prior academic record, the Committee will require an admissions interview and may require additional evidence to support the applicant's assertion that he or she is capable of producing graduate-level work. Indicate in writing the circumstances (age, family, finances, etc.) that make it unrealistic to obtain a bachelor's degree prior to enrollment.
- c. Applicants in this category will be considered for provisional admission only. Provisional admission will be re-assessed after 9 hours. If the applicant has a minimum of a 3.0 GPA, the student will be granted admission.
- d. Applicants for non-degree admission must also meet other admission requirements.



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