



Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program Request Form

Date of submission: 25 October 2020

Name of institution: Kent State University

Primary institutional contact for the request

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Name of bachelor's degree program: B.S. in Chemistry

Name of master's degree program: M.S. in Computer Science

Proposed implementation date: Fall 2021

1. Identify the total number of credit hours in the undergraduate and master's programs combined.

The B.S. degree is 120 credit hours, and the M.S. degree is 30 credit hours. With the combined degree program, 9 graduate credit hours will be double counted for both degrees, resulting in 141 total unique credit hours.

See the appendix on the last page of this document for the graduate courses that students may apply toward both degrees in consultation with their advisor.

2. Describe how the university will ensure that students meet the expected baccalaureate program outcomes before the bachelor's degree is awarded.

Kent State University utilizes a degree audit software that informs students and their academic advisor of student progress toward their degree. The degree audit contains all undergraduate programs and select graduate programs and reflects the official curriculum approved by faculty and published in the University Catalog.

Students in a combined degree program are informed that completion of their bachelor's degree is their primary concern. Within the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, the undergraduate and graduate program coordinators will consult with the students' academic advisor to help students plan their schedule to complete both degrees.

3. Describe how students are informed of this combined degree program. Include in the answer how students are advised regarding opportunities and challenges associated with the option.

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry will use internal media (posters, flyers, display screen announcements, social media and departmental website) to inform undergraduate students of the opportunity for the combined degree program. The departmental website will also describe the requirements of the B.S./M.S. combined program and provide instructions for applications.

In addition, the department will directly email their high-achieving undergraduate students (i.e., GPA ≥ 3.5) before the beginning of their junior year to personally inform them of the combined degree program and invite them to apply.

4. Describe the options available for students who wish to leave the program with a bachelor's degree before finishing the graduate-level work.

Students who decide to leave the combined degree program without finishing the master's degree will earn the bachelor's degree as long as they have completed all requirements for the bachelor's (which may include the graduate courses that were approved to double count toward both degrees).

5. Describe how the institution ensures that students will pay undergraduate tuition throughout the completion of the undergraduate degree.

Per [Kent State policy](#), students in a combined bachelor's/master's degree program are classified as undergraduate until the bachelor's degree is awarded. Kent State's tuition rate is assigned to the student's level, and not at the course level. Therefore, undergraduate students taking graduate courses will be charged the undergraduate tuition rate.

Kent State University agrees to monitor the success of the program and will submit an annual report to Ohio Department of Higher Education on the scope of the program and student success.

Kent State University verifies that the information in this request is truthful and accurate.

Respectfully,

Melody J. Tankersley, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Kent State University

Appendix: Curriculum for the Proposed Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program

Program requirements (2020-2021 University Catalog):

- [B.S. degree in Chemistry](#)
- [M.S. degree in Chemistry](#)
- [Chemistry \(CS\) course descriptions](#)

The graduate courses below can be taken at the graduate level and count toward both the B.S. and M.S. degree (within the 9-credit-hour limit).

B.S. Computer Science**Concentrations**

- Biochemistry
- Biochemistry–Pre-Medicine/Pre-Osteopathy/Pre-Dentistry
- Chemistry
- Industrial Chemistry
- Materials Chemistry

Graduate Coursework	Applicability Toward Degree Requirements	
	B.S. Degree	M.S. Degree
B.S. Chemistry major, Biochemistry concentration		
CHEM 50261 Principles of Biochemistry I (3)	Requirement	Elective
CHEM 50262 Principles of Biochemistry II (3)	Requirement	Elective
CHEM 50263 Physical Biochemistry (3)	Requirement	Elective
B.S. Chemistry major, Biochemistry–Pre-Medicine/Pre-Osteopathy/Pre-Dentistry concentration		
CHEM 50261 Principles of Biochemistry I (3)	Requirement	Elective
CHEM 50262 Principles of Biochemistry II (3)	Requirement	Elective
CHEM 50263 Physical Biochemistry (3)	Requirement	Elective
B.S. Chemistry major, Chemistry concentration		
CHEM 50261 Principles of Biochemistry I (3)	Elective	Elective
CHEM 50303 Inorganic Chemistry III (2)	Requirement	Elective
CHEM 50477 Intermediate Organic Chemistry Laboratory (1)	Requirement	Elective
CHEM 50483 Intermediate Organic Chemistry (1)	Requirement	Elective
CHEM 50000-level course (3)	Elective	Elective