

THE PATH TO GRADUATION

While students may engage in a wide variety of activities, sports, clubs, etc., during their collegiate years, the primary goal of each student is of course, to earn a degree. Below are the requirements every student must complete in order to earn a baccalaureate degree from McKendree University.

Degree Requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 credit hours*;
2. Complete a minimum of 30 upper level credits (junior/senior level courses numbered 300 or 400);
3. Complete a minimum of the final 30 hours in residence;
4. Attain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.00;
5. Complete all general education (core) curriculum requirements as contained in the catalog effective at time of matriculation** (these requirements are presented in the General Education Program section of this catalog);
6. Meet all requirements and performance standards for the major*** as contained in the catalog effective at time of matriculation (these requirements are presented in the Courses of Study section of this catalog under the appropriate discipline);
7. Complete all degree requirements within eight (8) years of matriculation; and
8. Declare their intent to graduate by completing a Degree Application (available on the Academic Records Office web page) according to the following schedule:
 - May applications are due by the previous **October 31**
 - July applications are due by the previous **October 31**
 - December applications are due by the previous **March 31**

*With the exception of students enrolled in an approved 4+1 or 3+2 program, graduate level coursework from McKendree University or any other institution of higher education may not be applied towards an undergraduate degree at McKendree University.

**Students have the option to change to a subsequent catalog governing their degree requirements, but must meet *all* requirements of the new catalog (both general education and major requirements).

***Any course applied toward the completion of one major or minor may not also be applied toward the fulfillment of elective requirements in another major. The minimum number of credit hours for a minor is 18. A maximum of nine duplicated hours may be applied toward both a major and a minor. A maximum of nine duplicated credit hours may be applied toward two different minors.

Additionally:

- Any outstanding transfer work must be received in the form of an official transcript by the university within 30 days of graduation. If the transcript is received after 30 days, the date of graduation will be changed to the next date of graduation following receipt of all outstanding transcripts.
- No course taken to satisfy a major or minor requirement may be taken using the Credit/No Credit grading option.

A Smooth Path:

Below are some guidelines to help students along the path to graduation:

1. Take charge of your academic career and become your own advocate.
2. Become familiar with your catalog; especially the sections on Academic Programs and Policies, General Education Program, and the Courses of Study pertaining to your major(s) and minor(s).
3. Consult your online Program Evaluation before registration each semester.
4. Print and consult the Four-Year Planning sheet associated with your major(s).
5. Consult the Course Descriptions section of the catalog as you make academic plans to make sure the course is offered when you want to take it (not all courses are offered every term, or even every year).
6. Visit your Academic Advisor to discuss which courses you should take.
7. Ask questions and seek advice from your Academic Advisor, the Advising Center or the Academic Records Office if you don't understand something in the catalog or on your program evaluation.