Graduate and Postbaccalaureate Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements
If you already hold a baccalaureate and your objective is a master's degree, credential, certificate, or other postbaccalaureate study, you must apply through CSUMentor using the graduate application online at http://www.csumentor.edu. Students with an objective of further undergraduate study apply at the same site using the undergraduate application (see “Admission to Second Bachelor's Degree Programs”). Depending on the objective, the CSU will consider an application for admission as follows:

- **General Requirements**—The minimum requirements for admission to graduate and postbaccalaureate studies at a California State University campus are in accordance with University regulations as well as Title 5, Chapter 1, Subchapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations. Specifically, a student shall at the time of enrollment: (1) have completed a four-year college course of study and hold an acceptable baccalaureate degree from an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association, or shall have completed equivalent academic preparation as determined by the Graduate School; (2) be in good academic standing at the last college or university attended; (3) have attained the grade point average required for the academic objective. Generally, postbaccalaureate students must satisfy one of the following three conditions: have a grade point average of at least 2.5 (on a scale where A=4.0) in an acceptable earned baccalaureate degree; or have a grade point average of at least 2.5 in the last 60 semester (90 quarter) units attempted; or hold an acceptable postbaccalaureate degree earned at an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association. However, applicants to a master's degree program must have a grade point average of at least 3.0 in the last 60 semester (45 quarter) units attempted and at least 2.75 in the last 60 semester (90 quarter) units attempted. An applicant who meets all (4) satisfactorily may file the professional, personal, scholastic, and other standards for graduate study, including qualifying examinations, as appropriate. Campus authorities may prescribe. In unusual circumstances, exceptions may be made to these criteria.

**Admission Classifications of Postbaccalaureate Students**

If you meet the minimum requirements for graduate and postbaccalaureate studies as indicated above, you may be considered for admission in one of the following categories:

- **Master's Degree Student**
  - You are a master's degree student if you are admitted to at least conditionally classified status in a specific degree program. See “Admission to Master's Degree Programs” below as well as individual program descriptions for complete information.
  - It is possible to pursue both a master's degree program and a credential or certificate program concurrently. If you are interested in pursuing dual objectives, you should contact the Graduate School to declare this intent.

**Postbaccalaureate Classified (Teaching Credential Candidate or Certificate Student)**

You are a credential candidate if you are admitted to obtain a basic teaching credential or a specialization in a particular area of Professional Education, Teaching Credentials, and Other Programs” on page 320 or visit http://www.csuchico.edu/soe/focus/ for specific information on the various credential programs and requirements. You may also apply to complete a postbaccalaureate certificate program as either an independent objective or in conjunction with a master's degree program.

To enroll in either a credential or certificate program, you will be required to satisfy additional professional, personal, scholastic, and other standards, including qualifying examinations, as prescribed by the University.

**Postbaccalaureate Unclassified**

To enroll in graduate courses for professional or personal growth, you must meet the general requirements for admission and be admitted as a postbaccalaureate classified student. Some departments may restrict enrollment of unclassified students because of heavy enrollment pressure. Admission in this status does not constitute admission to, or consideration for admission to, any graduate degree or credential program. Some CSU campuses do not offer admission to unclassified postbaccalaureate students. If your goal is to qualify for a master's degree program, you should talk with the appropriate graduate coordinator as early as possible to plan your course of study.

**Admission Notice**

The Graduate School officially notifies master's degree, certificate, and unclassified postbaccalaureate applicants of the admission decision. Credential applicants are notified of their admission to a particular credential program by the department responsible for the program.

Admission to any of the above categories is limited to the specific semester for which you have applied and been accepted. If you do not enroll in courses during the semester for which you are admitted, you will not be automatically readmitted for a subsequent semester but must reapply during the designated application period.

If you do not hold a baccalaureate at the start of the semester for which you are enrolled, your postbaccalaureate admission will be canceled and your class level will be changed back to senior. You must reapply for postbaccalaureate admission if you wish to enroll after you receive the bachelor's degree.

**Application Procedures**

All graduate and postbaccalaureate applicants (e.g., master’s degree applicants, those seeking credentials, and those interested in taking graduate-level courses for personal or professional growth) must file a complete graduate application as described in the graduate and postbaccalaureate application information and instructions at http://www.csumentor.edu/. Credential applicants may file a separate application for admission to their specific credential objective and should consult the “Education” chapter of this catalog or visit http://www.csuchico.edu/soe/focus/ for additional information. Applicants seeking a second bachelor's degree should submit the undergraduate application for admission unless specifically requested to do otherwise. Applicants enrolled at Chico who are changing their objective or in conjunction with a master's degree program, you should talk with the appropriate graduate coordinator as early as possible to plan your course of study.

If you already possess a baccalaureate, you may apply for admission to a program leading to a second bachelor's degree by completing the undergraduate application information and instructions at http://www.csumentor.edu/. You will be held to the same admission requirements as undergraduates applying to baccalaureate programs (i.e., 2.0 cumulative GPA for resident of California or a 2.4 cumulative GPA if you are a nonresident). Admission to Second Bachelor's Degree Programs

If you already possess a baccalaureate, you may apply for admission to a program leading to a second bachelor's degree by completing the undergraduate application information and instructions at http://www.csumentor.edu/. You will be held to the same admission requirements as undergraduates applying to baccalaureate programs (i.e., 2.0 cumulative GPA for resident of California or a 2.4 cumulative GPA if you are a nonresidents) subject to the following exceptions: 1) postbaccalaureate students currently enrolled at Chico who are changing their objectives; 2) those who were previously enrolled as postbaccalaureate students, have broken enrollment at Chico only one semester, and have not attended any other schools in the interim; 3) students filing as auditors; and, 4) students who have applied for, and been granted, an application fee waiver.

**Admission to Master's Degree Programs**

In addition to the requirements described previously for all postbaccalaureate students, as an applicant to a master’s degree program you may be required to complete a nationally standardized qualifying examination (e.g., Graduate Record Examination, Graduate Management Admission Test, Miller Analogies Test) or fulfill other supplemental materials as specified by the department. Refer to individual academic program chapters or visit http://www.csuchico.edu/soe/focus/ for information on specific departmental requirements. If test scores are required, a record of the test scores must be filed in the Graduate School prior to the application deadline listed in the Academic Calendar.

Completed forms are forwarded to the department for review. The department may recommend that you be admitted to one of the following categories:
Graduate Conditionally Classified
You may be admitted to a graduate degree program in conditionally classified status if your graduate department determines that you can remedy deficiencies by additional preparation. To be admitted as a conditionally classified master’s degree student, you must meet the general requirements for all postbaccalaureate students specified in “Admission Requirements” above as well as any specific requirements outlined by your major department for this category.

While enrolled as a conditionally classified student, you will be required to complete 12 qualifying, letter-graded units of 400/500/600-level work with at least a 3.0 GPA and satisfy any departmentally specified criteria for admission to classified standing. You must also maintain at least a 3.0 GPA in each of the following three categories: all course work taken at any accredited institution subsequent to admission to conditionally classified status; all course work taken at CSU, Chico subsequent to admission to conditionally classified status; and all courses applied towards the degree requirements.

Approval by the department and the Graduate School.

Use of Social Security Number
Your social security number is used to identify you in your association with the University as an applicant. Therefore, you are required to include your social security number in designated places on your application or any additional documentation submitted to the Graduate School.

Enrollment in Distance & Online Education Courses
Chico Distance & Online Education offers a variety of courses via the Internet using various Web-based applications. For information on course offerings, contact the Center for Regional and Continuing Education. Students who are conditionally classified Distance & Online Education courses receive resident credit and are held to the same application, transcript, and fee requirements as on-campus students.

International (Foreign) Student Admission Requirements
The CSU must assess the academic preparation of foreign students. For this purpose, “foreign students” include those who hold U.S. temporary visas as students, exchange visitors, or in other nonimmigrant classifications.

The CSU uses separate requirements and application filing dates in the admission of foreign students. Verification of English proficiency (see the following section on Graduate-Postbaccalaureate TOEFL/IELTS Requirement), financial resources, and academic performance are each important considerations for admission. Your application and academic records from foreign institutions must be on file at least six months in advance of the desired admission date. If your records are not in English, they must be accompanied by certified English translations.

Other examinations, such as the Graduate Management Admission Test, the Miller Analogies Test, and the Graduate Record Examination, may also be required by a department as a condition of admission.

If you have attended a recognized foreign institution and have received a degree deemed equivalent to the U.S. baccalaureate, you may apply for admission as a graduate student. Prior university-level performance will be appropriate to your graduate degree objective, and superior undergraduate grades are essential.

Priority in admission is given to residents of California. There is little likelihood of nonresidents being admitted either to impacted majors or to those majors or programs with limited openings.

Graduate-Postbaccalaureate TOEFL/IELTS Requirement
All graduate and postbaccalaureate applicants, regardless of citizenship, whose native language is not English and whose preparatory education was principally in a language other than English must demonstrate competence in English. Those who do not possess a bachelor’s degree from a postsecondary institution where English is the principal language of instruction must submit results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). The TOEFL must be completed with a minimum score of 213 on the computer-based test, 80 on the internet-based test, or a minimum total score of 550, with at least 50 in each section, on the paper-based test. A band score of 6.5 is required for the IELTS. Some programs require a higher score, and scores more than two years old are not acceptable. The TOEFL/IELTS score requirements are subject to change. You are, therefore, encouraged to contact the Graduate School for the most current information.

Admission as an Auditor
An auditor is a student who enrolls in a course for informational purposes only. An auditor attends class sessions regularly but does not participate in the class, take examinations, or receive credit for the course. To qualify as an auditor, you must apply for admission (without paying the application processing fee required of credit students) and submit such transcripts as are necessary to show that you hold a baccalaureate. In addition, you must obtain permission of the instructor to register as an auditor in any course. Auditors pay the same registration fees as credit students.

Deferred Admission
Deferred admission is no longer offered.

Transcript Retention
If you submit transcripts to the Graduate School at Chico and then fail to submit an application, the transcripts will be retained for two years and will then be discarded. If you complete an application, but do not enroll for the semester for which you have been accepted, your transcripts will then be discarded. If you complete an application, but do not enroll for the semester for which you have been accepted, your transcripts will then be discarded.

Notice of Potential Changes
These and other CSU admissions requirements are subject to change as policies are revised and laws are amended. The CSU Web site http://www.calstate.edu and the CSU admissions portal http://www.csumentor.edu are good sources of the most up-to-date information.