REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATE DEGREES

Graduate School Policies and Procedures

The Graduate School posts the Graduate School Policies and Procedures (https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider138/denver-anschutz-graduate-school/resources/graduate-school-policies-and-procedures.pdf?sfvrsn=d00622b9_2) that provide information and guidelines for graduate students and faculty at the University of Colorado Denver|Anschutz Medical Campus. Students are encouraged to be familiarize themselves with the policies outlined in this handbook and to use this handbook as a supplement to the personal feedback and guidance of faculty and staff in their departments.

Each graduate program is expected to provide students with a program-specific handbook indicating in some detail the curricular requirements, the expectations for satisfactory progress toward the degree completion, a timeline for the steps needed to meet these expectations and other features unique to each program (such as the composition and formation of thesis, project and dissertation committees to guide and review the student’s progress).

GPA Requirements and Quality of Graduate Work

To maintain satisfactory academic progress, advance to candidacy, and earn a certificate or graduate degree, students are required to maintain a minimum program GPA of 3.00 for all graduate courses taken while enrolled in their graduate programs, including any undergraduate (i.e., 4000 level) courses that may be required for the certificate program or graduate degree. Failure to maintain a 3.00 cumulative GPA will result in the student being placed on academic probation. Courses in which grades below “B-” (2.7) are received may not be applied toward fulfillment of the requirements for any graduate (doctoral or Master’s) degree or certificate. Courses required by the degree-granting program or certificate and in which the student receives a grade below “B-” must be retaken in order to achieve a “B-” or better grade.

Only earned grades of a “B-” or higher will be calculated into the program GPA. However, all grades received, including repeat courses, will appear on the student’s transcript and will be included in the cumulative GPA calculation. Only one course enrollment may be counted towards graduation credits. If a student starts a new Graduate School affiliated degree program after previously having been enrolled in a different program, their program GPA with respect to Graduate School requirements will start anew, and only grades earned while enrolled in the new graduate degree program will be considered in terms of their academic standing in the Graduate School.

Transfer Credits

A transfer credit is any credit that a student earned at another accredited institution outside of the CU System. Transfer credit requests may be accepted provided they are recommended by the corresponding program and approved by the school or college dean. The maximum number of credits that may be transferred is 12 for a Master’s degree (or 40% if the program requires more than thirty (30) credits) and 30 semester hours for PhD degrees. Limits vary for professional doctorate programs, and individual PhD programs may also have more restrictions.

Courses taken as pass/fail or satisfactory/unsatisfactory may not be transferred. All credits requested for transfer must be graded on an A-F letter grade system. In addition, a grade of B- or above must be earned for a course to be transferred (individual programs may require a higher standard). Courses that are more than seven (7) years old will need to be validated by the Program Director. Courses transferred from a quarter-system school will also be recalculated to their semester equivalent (a 3-quarter hour course at any institution will be equivalent to 2 semester hours).

Coursework that has been applied towards an undergraduate degree or another graduate degree on the same level (e.g., MA to MS) cannot be accepted for transfer credit. Specifically, Master’s courses applied to one completed Master’s degree program may not be applied to another Master’s degree; however, graduate level coursework (5000 level or above) completed for a Master’s degree may be applied toward a doctoral degree with program approval. Also, credits earned in a graduate certificate program, that have not also been applied to a graduate degree program, may be applied to a graduate degree program with program approval.