

Path from ACP to the Master's Degree

It is possible to apply a portion of Alternative Certification Program (ACP) courses toward certain master's degrees. Although admission to the ACP does not guarantee admission to a graduate program there is a high probability that most ACP students will also be able to obtain a Master's Degree. Some Master's Degree programs are more closely aligned with the ACP and therefore allow a larger number of ACP courses to be counted toward the degree. The recommended Master's Programs where the largest number of ACP courses may apply are the MS in Education, MS in Special Education, MEd in Special Education with eligibility for Professional Education Diagnostician and the MSIS.

There are basically two paths which lead to a Master's degree for the ACP student. One path is to simultaneously apply to both the ACP and to a Master's Program prior to entry into the ACP (Option A). The second is to apply for a Master's program upon completion of the ACP (Option B).

Option A involves completing all requirements for ACP admission AND for admission to a graduate program prior to beginning your program. **Option B** involves applying for a graduate program after completion of the ACP. In order for students to apply the graduate ACP courses toward fulfilling the requirements of a graduate program, students must change their status to degree seeking and apply for admission to a graduate program the next semester of enrollment after completing the ACP. Students have no more than one year from the date of completing their ACP to make this change.

Students should contact the Graduate Studies Office for assistance regarding the degree-seeking process.