

Admission Requirements for Transfer Students

Admission Information for Prospective Students ~~With~~ with Prior College Credit

UMSL values transfer students, defined as a student transferring from another college or university with at least 24 earned semester hours of college-level work.

A transferring student who has completed fewer than 24 hours must apply under the procedures for admission to the freshman class with the additional requirement that they submit official transcripts from all college-level courses attempted at previous institutions that document at least a 2.3 GPA.

Students transferring from other colleges and universities with at least 24 hours must submit the following information:

- A completed online Undergraduate Application
- A \$35 non-refundable Application Fee (\$40 for international students)
- Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended. Hand-carried credentials are not accepted.

All credentials submitted for admission become the property of the University.

Suspended and Dismissed Transfer Students

It is the practice of the Office of Admissions at the University of Missouri-St. Louis to uphold any suspension or dismissal decision offered to a student from another institution. Students suspended will be required to sit out for one year from the date of suspension before enrolling in UMSL. In addition, students must still meet the minimum admission requirements of a 2.3 GPA. A student may need to attend another institution in order to increase his/her GPA. Students who have been dismissed from another institution may not enroll at the University.

Students who have been dismissed from a specific college or school within another institution will need to show proof that they are eligible to enroll and/or are back in good standing at the previous institution in order to enroll with UMSL.

Additionally, students who are suspended/dismissed from another UM institution shall not be admissible until after one year from the date of the

suspension/dismissal. Even though a student is removed from suspension, the student must still meet the minimum admission requirements of a 2.3 GPA.

Missouri State Transfer Agreement

Although transfer students should be aware that requirements for degrees vary from institution to institution, some transferred credits may not apply to UMSL programs, UMSL has attempted to minimize the loss of credits by adhering to the Missouri Coordinating Board of Higher Education (CBHE) Articulation Agreement. The agreement outlines statewide undergraduate general education requirements that satisfy the general requirements for students transferring into UMSL and students transferring out of UMSL to other public universities in the state.

UMSL requires mathematics and writing proficiency beyond the general requirements in the CBHE Statement. Please refer to the General Education requirements for details.

Transfer Credit

The articulation agreement among public institutions within the state of Missouri governs transfer of credit to UMSL from colleges and universities within the state of Missouri. These guidelines also apply to students transferring to UMSL from schools located outside Missouri. Advanced standing in the form of credit hours may be allowed for work satisfactorily completed in another public or private college or university of recognized standing located in the state of Missouri, as long as the work satisfies the requirements of the student's major.

The transcript at each institution includes all courses attempted. Grades of D or better earned in college-level work at an accredited or approved institution of higher education should receive full credit when transferred to UMSL. The University, however, will treat all grades on courses attempted on the same basis as that of a UMSL student. For example, if a program requires a UMSL student to repeat a specified course having earned a D grade, a transfer student will also be required to repeat the same course if it carries a D grade.

To maximize transfer credits from community colleges, UMSL has transfer guides and articulation agreements with area colleges. Should community college students have any question about the transferability of courses not in the

articulation agreement, they should contact the appropriate Transfer Coordinator, preferably prior to taking a course.

Advanced Standing

Advanced standing includes credit by examination, examination that may or may not appear on a transfer student's transcripts, including College Board Advanced Placement (AP), the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES). It also includes credit by portfolio review (Bachelor of Fine Arts only). These lower-division credits may not apply at the senior level. For examination credit, students should submit appropriate verification documents to the Office of Admissions before their first semester at UMSL. Students interested in the portfolio review should contact the Art Department. Early attention to these matters is essential to avoid unnecessary course work or repeats that can lead to loss of credit. If examinations are completed at a later date, verification documents should be submitted as soon as they are available.

Shortly after all official transcripts and other verifications are on file, students' previous academic records are evaluated to determine which courses are applicable, and students receive a written report of the results. Degree checks determining whether courses meet a specific degree requirement and whether courses are accepted as a part of the student's academic major are made in the office of the appropriate dean or advisor. Should there be any question concerning applicability of any courses, students should discuss this with that advisor.

Associate Degree Transfers from Community Colleges

A student admitted to the university and holding an associate degree (2.0 GPA or higher) applicable toward the baccalaureate degree will be accepted in junior standing. Students fulfilling the general education requirements outlined by the Missouri Coordinating Board of Higher Education and certified by the sending institution will have met the lower division general education requirements at UMSL. Students with AA degrees from Missouri institutions that include a CBHE approved general education core may transfer more than 64 credit hours for lower division courses. Any additional lower division course credits above 64 credit hours must be applicable to the baccalaureate degree or must be a prerequisite for an upper division course in the major. However, this does not exempt the student from meeting specialized lower-division degree requirements

of specific departments. Courses completed in the associate degree program are evaluated for application to specific degree requirements by the same criteria used for transfer students from other colleges and universities.

Transfers ~~Within~~ within the University of Missouri System.

Students must be in good standing at another campus of the University of Missouri to be eligible for admission. Students not in good standing will not be admissible until after one year from the date of the suspension/dismissal. Students must meet the minimum admission requirements of a 2.3 GPA.

Any course that leads to an undergraduate degree **or fulfills a general education requirement** on any campus of the University of Missouri shall be accepted in transfer toward the same degree on any campus of the university offering that degree **or toward the general education requirements.**

When courses transferred from the UM system have no direct equivalent at UMSL, they will be transferred as elective credits at the same level as they are numbered and count toward the 120-credit hour minimum required for graduation as long as a passing grade was received and as long as they are numbered above 1000 (or above 100 for institutions using a three-digit system). All other credit hour and residency requirements still apply. Courses transferred without a direct equivalent course at UMSL will not count toward a major, minor, or certificate unless approved by the respective department or program.

Grades, including D and F grades, and honor points earned in ~~such~~ courses from **the University of Missouri system** will also transfer and will be included in the cumulative grade point averages. Unresolved problems related to transferability of credit may be appealed to the office of the appropriate dean.

Students within the last 30 hours of graduation may take a limited number of courses at another campus in the UM system, provided the last 15 hours are taken at UMSL and the work is approved by their respective dean and department.

Sign-offs from other departments affected by this proposal

None

Rationale

Currently, there are numerous courses a student could take at one of the other UM institutions that count toward a degree at those institutions but not at UMSL. The major reason they do not count toward a degree here is that there are no equivalent courses here (eg. Forestry classes). Courses without a direct equivalent are still considered for admission purposes and are listed on degree audits, yet they do not count toward completion of degrees here at UMSL. Most other UM campuses already accept all transferred courses from within the UM system, yet UMSL does not. There is some concern that denying transfer of these courses and not applying them toward the credit hours needed for a degree can be discouraging to prospective transfer students. No one wants to hear that only a fraction of the credits they earned at a sister UM campus will apply toward graduation at UMSL. Moreover, implementing this policy will decrease the time to completion for these transfer students and help them make the most of their financial aid and reduce the cost of completion. We believe by accepting these courses, more transfer applicants will enroll at UMSL and more students will consider transferring to UMSL. This represents a first step in reevaluating our transfer databases, which are in serious need of updating. It also represents a first step in complying with sections Senate Bill 997, which mandates that all MO public institutions of higher learning must transfer for credit any course that fulfills a “common core” (General Education) requirement. We need to be compliant, and good first step is to accept all courses transferred to UMSL from another UM institution. SB 997:
http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=26334489