

LINDENWOOD

REAL EXPERIENCE. REAL SUCCESS.

School of
**ARTS, MEDIA, &
COMMUNICATIONS**

APPLICATION to Early Access Graduate Program

Name: _____
Last First MI Maiden

Home address: _____
Street City State Zip

E-mail address: _____

Phone: _____
Home Cell Work/Other

Student ID: _____

WHEN DO YOU PLAN TO BEGIN the Early Access Graduate Program?

Fall _____ Year / Spring _____ Year /

Lindenwood DEGREE CURRENTLY BEING PURSUED

_____ Degree Major Anticipated graduation date

_____ Current GPA Current hours completed Current advisor

HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT Lindenwood's Early Access to MA/MFA programs?

In the event of enrollment I agree that I will be subject to all the school, financial, and academic rules and regulations of Lindenwood University. I certify that the above information is correct.

Applicant's signature

Date

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO: Dr. James Hutson, Scheidegger Center, Rm. 1045

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BENEFITS OF EARLY ACCESS to Graduate programs

1. **Save time**— Students who take advantage of the 9 credit hours' worth of graduate coursework can **complete their MA/MFA in at least one less semester!**
 - For non-majors, get prerequisite classes out of the way (i.e. see chair of department)!
2. If **accepted** into the early access program, students can take up to 9 graduate hours at no additional cost. **A savings of roughly \$4,200!**
3. **Credits still being there** for you, even if you step out for a bit.
4. Those who hold a master's degree **earn an average of \$9,792 more per year.***

*Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics website
www.bls.gov/emp/ep_chart_001.htm



Early Access PROGRAM DETAILS

1. **Open to ALL full-time traditional undergraduate majors**
2. **Need to have a 3.0 GPA or higher**
3. **Enrolled in at least 12 hrs of undergrad courses**
4. **No additional tuition cost**
5. **Complete up to 9 graduate credit hrs. during senior year**

FREQUENTLY Asked Questions

Is there an overload fee? As long as you do not exceed a combined enrollment of more than 18 hours in the semester, there is not an overload fee. If you receive approval and enroll in more than 18 hours, you will be charged the standard overload fee as stated in the Lindenwood Undergraduate Catalog if you do not have a 3.3 GPA and submit the overload fee waiver form.

How does this affect financial aid? It will not affect your financial aid—you are required to be enrolled in a minimum of 12 undergraduate hours.

What forms and signatures do you need? You must complete an application to the Early Access to the Graduate Program. This form can be obtained from the School of Arts, Media, and Communications (AMC). You will need to submit this form to the director of early access, Dr. James Hutson, in the Scheidegger Center Room 1045. Your academic records will be reviewed, and if you meet the requirements, your paperwork will be sent for approval.

Why would I want to do this? Upon completing your bachelor's degree and nine hours of graduate work, you will be able to shorten the time it takes to complete the requirements for the graduate program and reduce the total cost of the program.

What is the maximum number of courses I can take prior to receiving my bachelor degree? Students are permitted to enroll in no more than six credit hours of graduate course work per semester and to complete no more than nine credit hours graduate work prior to receiving a bachelor's degree.

Who can apply to the early access program? Any Lindenwood student who has completed a minimum of 84 undergraduate hours with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 is eligible to apply.

Does my bachelor's degree need to be in same degree? No. In fact, your bachelor's degree must be in another area. This may require you to take prerequisite courses. See the chair of the respective department for details.

How much does this cost? Six hours per semester and no more than a total of nine credit hours will be included in your undergraduate fulltime tuition, and therefore you will be able to take up to three of your required graduate courses without charge. Book expenses and lab fees for any graduate courses will be at the student's expense.

Is there a minimum GPA to remain in the program? Yes. You must maintain a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.00 and a minimum Graduate cumulative GPA of 3.00.

Am I automatically accepted to the Graduate School once I have completed my undergraduate program? No. This allows you the opportunity to enroll in the Early Access Graduate Program. You will need to complete the process of applying to the Lindenwood Graduate Program.