

# ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## BOARD POLICY

**Policy Number:** 300

**Subject:** Graduate Admissions Policy

---

**Date Adopted:** August 1980

**Revised:** December 1995, September 2013

---

Individuals who meet the admission requirements listed below may apply to Arkansas Tech University. The University reserves the right to reject the application of any individual. Every student must file an application for admission. An application for admission to graduate study may be obtained by contacting the Graduate College or going online to <http://www.atu.edu/gradcollege/>. Priority deadline date for fall admission is March 1 and spring admission is October 1. This will ensure consideration for admissions and assistantships. Students who do not meet this deadline, may submit necessary credentials for admission up to two (2) weeks in advance of the initial date of enrollment. Applicants for admission must submit a completed application form and request from the college or university granting their bachelor's degree an official transcript be sent directly to the Graduate College.

Detailed information regarding graduate student admissions may be obtained by contacting: Graduate College, 1507 North Boulder Avenue, Tomlinson 113, Russellville, AR 72801. Phone (479) 968-0398, fax (479) 964-0542, or go online to <http://www.atu.edu/gradcollege/>.

Applicants must meet the admission requirements established for a particular degree program. Approved applicants will be notified in writing of their eligibility for admission to graduate study. Application for admission will be valid for one (1) semester; applicants who do not enroll during the semester in which they applied will be required to reapply for admission. Admission to graduate study does not imply admission to a specific program or to candidacy for a degree.

Tech will provide equal opportunity in admission to all persons. This applies to all phases of the admission process. Any demographic information collected through the Admission Application is on a voluntary basis and is to be used in a nondiscriminatory manner consistent with applicable civil rights laws for reporting and statistical purposes only and cannot affect eligibility for admission.

Any student requiring special accommodations in order to complete a course or program of study should contact the Disabilities Director, Bryan Hall, Room 103, or call (479) 968-0302. The Disabilities Director administers programs and services associated with the Americans with Disabilities Act and serves as a liaison for students with disabilities.

Beginning June 1, 2007, all students at Arkansas Tech University will be assigned a permanent, randomly generated, student identification number. Student's social security numbers will be

used only on applications for admission and solely for the purposes of State and Federal reporting requirements and determination of eligibility for Federal financial aid.

Persons born after January 1, 1957 must furnish proof of immunity against measles, mumps, and rubella by sending proof of two (2) MMR immunization shots to the Tech Health and Wellness Center prior to enrollment in classes. For more information contact the Health and Wellness Center at (479) 968-0329.

### **Unconditional Admission**

---

Admission applicants must:

1. Pay a \$25.00 one-time application fee directly to the Graduate College.
2. Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college verified by an official transcript.
3. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or a 3.00 on the last 30 hours of undergraduate work or hold a graduate degree from a regionally accredited institution.
4. Request from the college or university granting their bachelor's degree a complete undergraduate official transcript sent directly to the Graduate College. Mail all materials to: Graduate College, 1507 North Boulder Avenue Tomlinson 113, Russellville, AR 72801.
5. Meet additional admission requirements specified by programs in the graduate catalog (GRE, writing samples, etc.).

### **Conditional Admission**

---

Applicants may be admitted conditionally if they:

1. Do not meet the grade point requirements.
2. Hold a bachelor's degree from an unaccredited institution.
3. Have not met additional requirements of particular programs.
4. Have not submitted all necessary documentation prior to initial enrollment.

Applicants who fail to meet the grade point requirement specified for admission may be admitted conditionally to enroll for a maximum of twelve (12) semester hours. If a student was admitted conditionally based on grade point average, the condition will be met if upon completion of twelve (12) semester hours, a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or better is achieved.

An applicant who satisfies the grade point requirement at an unaccredited college may also be granted conditional admission. In some instances, transcripts may be judged to be deficient and the student may be required to complete up to thirty (30) undergraduate hours in addition to graduate credits required for the degree. If a cumulative 3.00 grade point average is achieved at the completion of twelve (12) graduate hours, the student will be granted unconditional admission.

### **Non-Degree Admission**

---

Applicants not pursuing a graduate degree may be admitted as non-degree seeking graduate students, upon submitting a completed application for admission to graduate study and an

official transcript from an accredited college or university showing a baccalaureate or higher degree has been earned at that institution. Applicants requesting non-degree admission must meet the same grade point admission criteria as outlined for degree admission. A maximum of twelve (12) graduate hours earned while in non-degree status may apply to a degree program. Students desiring to change from a non-degree admission status to a degree admission status must apply for degree admission.

### **Transient Admission**

---

Applicants who are pursuing a graduate degree at another institution may be admitted as transient graduate students upon submission of a completed application for admission to graduate study and an official statement from their institution verifying they have been admitted to its graduate program and are in good standing.

### **International Graduate Student Admissions**

---

The International and Multicultural Student Services Office (IMSSO) is pleased to assist International students who wish to study at Arkansas Tech University (Tech). Any student who is not a United States citizen or a permanent resident of the United States is considered an international student. International students are subject to out-of-state tuition rates and an international student services fee, as well as, additional admission requirements. International students interested in applying for admission to Tech must submit the following documents:

1. Application - An application for international admission, properly completed.
2. Application Fee - A nonrefundable application fee of \$50 USD (separate payment if possible).
3. Graduate College Fee - A nonrefundable application fee of \$25 USD (separate payment if possible).
4. Academic Records - All transcripts must be originals or school-certified copies of originals with official English translations. Notarized copies are not accepted. All applicants should submit evidence of the completion of a 4-year bachelor's degree program. Documents submitted should include detailed grade/mark sheets, as well as, a certificate/diploma providing evidence the degree was awarded. If a consolidated mark sheet is available, please send this documentation as well. Official transcripts should be submitted from all colleges/universities where a student has been officially registered.
5. Entrance Exam - Each individual degree program has varying requirements for admission. Not all programs require GRE or MAT scores. However, if such scores are available, please request original copies of these examinations are sent directly to Arkansas Tech University. The school code for Arkansas Tech University is 6010.
6. English Proficiency - Students who wish to apply for admission to the English Language Institute (ELI) are not required to demonstrate English proficiency. All other applicants should submit official documentation of meeting one of the following standards:
  1. A minimum score of 550 on the written TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), 213 on the computerized TOEFL or 79 on the Internet-based TOEFL. Scores must be received directly from the Educational Testing Service (ETS). The school code for Arkansas Tech University is 6010.

2. A minimum score of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). An official score card must be sent directly to Arkansas Tech University.
3. An EIKEN score of Grade Pre-1. Scores must be sent directly from STEP. Inc. (Society for Testing English Proficiency).

NOTE: Test scores are only valid for two years. Please submit only those scores taken within two years from the time of application.

7. Evidence of Sufficient Financial Support - Graduate costs are estimated at \$15,444 USD for nine (9) months of study including tuition and fees, housing, meals, books, and other living expenses.  
Applicants must provide certified evidence of the source and amount of funding that will be utilized to support educational expenses. Documents must be official and issued within the six (6) months previous to the time of application. No copies are accepted.
8. Passport - Please provide a photocopy of your current passport as well as any previous visas to the US, I-20's and an I-94 card if available.
9. Program Requirements - Please check the catalog pages for the degree program of interest for the possibility of additional requirements needed to complete the application for admission.

The application for international admission and all supporting documents should be submitted by May 1 for the fall semester, October 1 for the spring semester, and March 1 for both summer sessions for priority consideration. Applications are still accepted after the priority dates. Admission will not be granted until all supporting documentation as listed above has been received and evaluated. Upon acceptance, notification will be sent to the student along with an I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility).

Students seeking to defer admission to a future term must submit a \$25 USD deferral fee along with updated evidence of financial support. Please send a written request for deferral to IMSSO along with the fee and updated financial support documentation within 60 days of the start date of your last admission.

Full payment of tuition and fees must be paid at registration each semester. International students are required to purchase a health insurance policy provided by the university. Tech receives no remuneration as a result of international student enrollment in the health insurance plan.

More detailed information regarding international student admissions may be obtained by contacting the International and Multicultural Student Services Office, Tomlinson 29, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, Arkansas, 72801-2222, USA; telephone (479) 964-0832; fax (479) 880-2039; web <http://www.atu.edu/imssso>.

### **Undergraduate Senior Admission**

---

An undergraduate senior, registering the semester prior to graduation in a baccalaureate degree program at Arkansas Tech University, who does not need a full load of undergraduate courses to complete requirements for graduation, may request special permission from the Dean of Graduate College to enroll in no more than six (6) hours of graduate course work. The student's course load is not to exceed a total of fifteen (15) semester hours of graduate and

undergraduate work combined during a fall or spring semester. The combined course load for a summer term is six (6) semester hours. The student must have a 3.00 cumulative grade point average to be eligible for admission as an undergraduate senior. Graduate work taken while classified as an undergraduate senior appears on the undergraduate transcript. Failure of a student to complete the bachelor's degree during the semester/term in which the graduate courses are taken will preclude the student from enrolling in additional graduate classes in subsequent semesters until the bachelor's degree is awarded. The form requesting approval to enroll as an undergraduate senior can be obtained at the Graduate College online at [http://www.atu.edu/gradcollege/faculty\\_forms.shtml](http://www.atu.edu/gradcollege/faculty_forms.shtml).

## **Second Master's Degree**

---

Subject to the approval of the advisor, program director and Dean of Graduate College a graduate student may be allowed to apply six (6) or nine (9) semester hours toward a second master's degree. If the second master's degree requires 30 hours, a maximum of six (6) hours may be applied to the second degree. If the second master's degree requires 36 hours or more, a maximum of nine (9) hours may be applied to the second master's degree.

Any courses applied to the second master's degree must meet the requirements for the degree and must not be more than six (6) years old at the time of completion of the second master's degree. All remaining courses applied to meet the requirements for the second master's degree must be taken in residence at Arkansas Tech University. Approval for applying these courses must be received at the beginning of the second master's degree program.

## **Transfer of Graduate Credit**

---

### **Graduate Credit Taken Prior to Admission to Arkansas Tech University**

A maximum of six (6) semester hours of graduate credit in a 30 hour program and nine (9) semester hours of graduate credit in a 36 hour program with a grade point average of "B" or better may be transferred from an accredited graduate school if deemed appropriate to the graduate program by the head of the student's major department and the Dean of Graduate College. Students must send a written request to the head of their major department to petition an acceptance of the transfer credit prior to requesting admission to candidacy to the graduate program. Graduate credit earned six (6) years prior to the completion date of all degree requirements may not be applied toward the degree without the approval of the appropriate program director and the Dean of Graduate College. Credits earned by correspondence courses or for remedial purposes will not apply toward the graduate degree. No undergraduate course may be repeated for graduate credit.

### **Graduate Credit Taken After Admission to Arkansas Tech University**

If after admission to graduate study, a student wishes to take a course at another institution to count toward degree requirements at Arkansas Tech University, the student must (in advance of enrollment) obtain written approval from the program director and the Dean of Graduate College.