The following publications can be obtained online at [www.siue.edu](http://www.siue.edu): Schedule of Classes; the Undergraduate Catalog; the Graduate Catalog.

**ACCREDITATION**

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The University is a member of the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP), an innovative method for maintaining regional accreditation. Additional information regarding AQIP can be found at [http://www.ncahlc.org/Pathways/aqip-home.html](http://www.ncahlc.org/Pathways/aqip-home.html).

For more information, contact the HLC at [www.ncahlc.org](http://www.ncahlc.org) or 800-621-7440.

Many of the University's graduate programs, departments, and schools are accredited by professional agencies, including the following:

- AACSBI – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business-International (MBA & Accountancy)
- Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
- American Art Therapy Association (Approved Program)
- Council on Social Work Education
- National Association of Schools of Music
- National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration
- St. John’s Hospital, Springfield, Illinois (Department of Biological Sciences)
- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs
- Council of Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- National Association of School Psychologists
- National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education
- Illinois State Board of Education (All Teacher Education Programs)
Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education

GRADUATE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The Graduate School of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is committed to promoting graduate education and research of the highest quality. The mission is to provide excellent programs, foster intellectual development, and facilitate excellence in research and scholarly and creative activities.

GOALS OF GRADUATE STUDENT LEARNING

The purpose of graduate education at SIUE is to provide students with the intellectual ability to understand, create, integrate, and apply sophisticated discipline specific knowledge. Because knowledge is dynamic, students are additionally expected to learn the intellectual system of the discipline, which is the discipline’s system of thinking, knowing, and acting, in order to acquire and evaluate future knowledge. Toward those ends, the Graduate Council adopts the following goals for graduate student learning.

DEMONSTRATE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE DISCIPLINE

Graduate students should understand the current and historical theories, concepts, and models of the discipline. They should possess the ability to access and evaluate the literature of the discipline and understand the major issues in the current state of knowledge. In addition to knowing the specific content of the discipline, students should be able to understand and appropriately use the methods and techniques of advancing and/or applying knowledge in the field of study.

EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE KNOWLEDGE IN THE DISCIPLINE

Graduate students should possess the ability to write and speak about the current issues of the discipline to peers, practitioners, and the public. They should be able to articulate and demonstrate knowledge of the discipline and write and present scholarship to professionals.

DEMONSTRATE AN ABILITY FOR ANALYTICAL THINKING IN THE DISCIPLINE

Graduate students should be able to identify and understand critical issues in the discipline. They should possess the ability to challenge and evaluate information, as well as to synthesize and integrate knowledge in the discipline.
EXHIBIT THE BEST PRACTICES, VALUES, AND ETHICS OF THE PROFESSION

Graduate students should understand and exhibit the professional standards for responsible conduct of research in the discipline and understand the values and ethics of practicing the profession in society.

APPLY KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISCIPLINE

Graduate students should possess the ability to apply knowledge in the discipline to solve sophisticated problems and to interpret technical issues.

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS ADMISSION

1. Applicants must have earned a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent from an accredited college or university, or be within 12 semester hours and not more than one academic term of such a degree, or present equivalent credentials. A professional degree in law, medicine, or dentistry is considered equivalent to a baccalaureate degree for this purpose if the professional degree program (1) requires for admission at least 60 semester hours of general college credit from an accredited college or university, and (2) is of at least 27 months' duration.

2. The overall grade point average for undergraduate work should be at least 2.5 (A=4.0). Some degree programs require a grade point average higher than 2.5 for admission. Applicants should check specific program descriptions for additional information. Applicants with domestic credentials whose undergraduate average falls between 2.0 and 2.49 and who have completed their undergraduate degree may receive individual consideration for admission to degree programs. College records and supporting evidence used in these evaluations include such factors as (1) higher grade point average in the last two years of undergraduate work than the overall average; (2) higher grade point average in the undergraduate major than in general undergraduate studies; (3) acceptable scores on tests such as the Graduate Record Examination; and (4) successful professional experience.

3. Overall grade point average for all graduate level work completed previously should be at least 3.0 (A=4.0), regardless of the undergraduate grade point average.

4. Applicants must be approved for admission by the graduate program in which they intend to pursue a degree as indicated on the application and, therefore, must meet any requirements established by the program in addition to those of the Graduate School.

MASTER'S DEGREES COMPLETION

For a master's degree to be awarded, a student is required to complete at least 30 semester hours of acceptable graduate credit with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (A=4.0). One-half of the required credits must be earned in courses numbered 500 or above, and at least
two-thirds must be earned in a major field of study or cooperative or interdisciplinary program. Only credit earned within a six-year period preceding the completion of all requirements, whether at SIUE or elsewhere, is counted toward a master's degree. By policy, up to one-third of the total number of hours required for the master's degree can be approved for transfer to the degree program, subject to the additional requirements and restrictions described elsewhere in this publication. Minimum credit requirements vary by program.

NO CREDIT is allowed toward a graduate degree for courses in which a grade below C is earned.

CREDIT EARNED IN WORKSHOPS

Only 10 semester hours of workshop credit may be applied to the total number of hours required for a graduate degree. "Workshop credit" is defined as credit earned in a course taking place within a time frame of two weeks or less and requiring completion of student assignments by the end of the instructional period. A maximum of 6 hours of workshop credit, out of the 10 allowable, earned between the end of one term and the end of the next, may be counted in the total number of hours required for the degree.

THESIS OR OTHER CREATIVE EFFORT

For some graduate programs, the completion of a thesis is one of the exit requirements. While working on a thesis or other creative effort, a student must register for a course numbered 599 or an equivalent number, specifically designated for this purpose. The thesis ordinarily may be counted for not more than 6 nor less than 3 semester hours of credit. Under special circumstances, a student's advisory committee may recommend that a student be permitted to apply for as many as 10 hours of thesis credit toward fulfillment of degree requirements. In such instances, prior approval of the Graduate Dean is required. The request is made on a "Request for Extended Thesis Credit" form, which provides for the written recommendations of all members of the thesis advisory committee. The form is available online at www.siue.edu/graduate/Forms.shtml and in the Office of the Registrar, Rendleman Hall, Room 1207. If the thesis or project is not finished after the student has enrolled in the maximum number of credit hours allowable, the student is expected to enroll in UNIV 500 each term until the work is completed. UNIV 500 is a no-credit "course" for which a fee of $37.50 is charged. This form of enrollment enables the student to maintain access to such resources as faculty, library, computers, and parking.

Each master's degree thesis must be supervised by a committee of at least three members of the graduate faculty. Emeritus faculty may serve on thesis committees but may not serve as chair unless the chair position was held prior to retirement. The thesis proposal must be approved by the committee and the title of the thesis registered with Graduate Records in the Service Center. It is recommended that thesis registration be completed no later than the last day of classes in the term preceding the one in which the student expects to graduate. The "Registration of Thesis Title" form and "Guidelines for the Preparation of Theses" are available on-line at http://www.siue.edu/graduate/forms.shtml.
Approval of the thesis by the student's advisory committee is validated on a thesis approval page. The original and an acceptable copy of the approved thesis must be presented to the Graduate School for review no later than the last day of classes in the term in which graduation is expected. A student's responsibility for fulfilling this degree requirement does not end until the thesis has been formally accepted in the Graduate School.

NON-THESIS PROGRAMS

Students in graduate programs that do not require a thesis are governed by specific requirements of the appropriate programs, and their work is generally directed by an advisory committee of at least three graduate faculty members. Research papers or other projects required in lieu of a thesis are not filed with Graduate Records. For detailed information on mandatory compliance with federal regulations on research involving human subjects, animals, biohazards, and recombinant DNA, contact the Graduate School.

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THESIS AND NON-THESIS RESEARCH

In order to comply with federal regulations, proposals that involve human subjects, animals, biohazards, or recombinant DNA must be cleared by the appropriate University committee and approved by the Graduate Dean before data collection begins. Information and guidelines for research with human subjects are available in the Graduate School or on the web at www.siue.edu/orp/humansubjectsprotection/index.shtml.

EXIT REQUIREMENTS

Each master’s degree program has individual exit requirements. Check the graduate program for the specific exit requirements. A report of the results of the exit requirements is filed with Graduate Records on a form entitled "Summary of Completion of Requirements for Graduate Degrees."

POST-MASTER’S CERTIFICATES COMPLETION

For a post-master’s certificate to be awarded, a student is required to complete at least 18 semester hours of graduate credit with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (A=4.0). Minimum credit requirements vary by program. For detailed explanation of specific graduation requirements, see the program descriptions. One-half of the required credits must be earned in courses numbered 500 or above. NO CREDIT is allowed toward a graduate program for courses in which a grade below C is earned. Only credit earned within a six-year period preceding the completion of all requirements, whether at SIUE or elsewhere, is counted toward a certificate. No more than 3 of these required hours can be in independent readings, directed research, practicum, or other similar courses. No substitution or waiver of courses and of completion requirements is permissible for a certificate program.
POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE ADMISSION

A post-baccalaureate certificate is an organized program of study requiring at least 18 semester hours of graduate credit which leads to a specific set of skills or knowledge. A certificate confirms that a student has mastery of the content of a clearly defined sub-field of an academic major field of study. A certificate provides in-depth training, but not to the breadth of a graduate degree. The completion of a certificate is noted on a student's transcript and is part of the University's official graduate offerings.

Prospective students interested in a certificate program should follow application procedures detailed above in "Admission to Master's Degree Programs." In order to begin a certificate program, a student must be admitted to the Graduate School as a classified graduate student. The program faculty must approve the admission of all students into the certificate program and may add additional admission requirements such as course prerequisites.

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE COMPLETION

For a post-baccalaureate certificate to be awarded, a student is required to complete at least 18 semester hours of graduate credit with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (A=4.0). Minimum credit requirements vary by program. For detailed explanation of specific graduation requirements, see program descriptions in Chapter 2. One-half of the required credits must be earned in courses numbered 500 or above. NO CREDIT is allowed toward a graduate program for courses in which a grade below C is earned. Only credit earned within a six-year period preceding the completion of all requirements, whether at SIUE or elsewhere, is counted toward a certificate. No more than 3 of these required hours can be independent readings, directed research, practicum, or other similar courses. No substitution or waiver of courses or completion requirements is permissible for a certificate program. By policy, up to one-third of the total number of hours required for the certificate can be approved for transfer to the program, subject to the additional requirements and restrictions described elsewhere in this publication. Courses taken in a certificate program may also be counted toward the completion of a graduate degree.

SPECIALIST DEGREE PROGRAM ADMISSION

Applicants must have completed a master's degree from an accredited institution with a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 (A=4.0) for all graduate level work and ordinarily must have had at least two years of experience relevant to the specialized field. Credentials of applicants whose cumulative grade point average for graduate work completed is between 3.0 and 3.25 may be considered individually. Prospective students must also satisfy requirements established by the graduate faculty of the major.

Prospective students interested in specialist degree programs should follow application procedures detailed previously in "Master's Degree Programs." Supplementary application forms and further information concerning specialist degree programs are available from the
major department Graduate Program Director. Prospective students should consult the program description in the next chapter of this publication to determine specific program admission requirements. Admission to a specialist degree program is final only after approval by the graduate faculty of the program and the Graduate Dean.

**SPECIALIST DEGREE PROGRAM COMPLETION**

Specialist degree programs are for qualified persons with master's degrees who wish to pursue advanced study in an educational field. Specialist degree programs are currently offered in educational administration and in school psychology. A specialist degree requires a minimum of 32 semester hours beyond the master's degree required by the program of study. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25 for all work in a program is required. Students pursuing the specialist degree ordinarily complete a thesis or final project, and they are required to pass a final examination for the successful completion of the degree. All credit, regardless of its origin, must have been earned within a seven-year period prior to completion of the program. All Graduate School requirements and procedures pertaining to the scheduling and reporting of the final examination for the degree, as described in the preceding section on "Master's Degree Requirements," apply also to the specialist degree.

Prospective students interested in pursuing a specialist degree should contact the Graduate Program Director for the specific degree program for details relative to admission, enrollment, graduation requirements, and time to completion of all degree components.

**RETENTION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

The standing of any graduate student whose cumulative grade point average falls below the required minimum (3.0 for master's degree, post-baccalaureate certificate, or unclassified students and 3.25 for specialist degree students) or fails to satisfy the standards for retention for the student’s individual graduate programs, the status of the student will be reviewed by the Graduate Dean and the student’s program director.

If a graduate student fails to meet the appropriate retention standards stated above after 15 semester hours, the Graduate Dean may drop the student from the Graduate School. The Graduate Dean may approve the retention of any such students upon the recommendation of the graduate program director. If the student is permitted to continue, the conditions for continuance will be put in writing by the student's program director and, upon concurrence of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, communicated to the student. A student dropped from the Graduate School is ordinarily not admissible to another degree program.

A student who is dropped from a degree program may apply for admission in non-degree status as an unclassified student.

Unclassified graduate students are expected to complete courses and to maintain the minimum grade point average of 3.0. If, after 9 semester hours of graduate level courses, an unclassified
graduate student has a grade point average for these courses below 3.0, the student's performance will be reviewed by Graduate Records, and action may be taken to drop the student from the Graduate School.

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

The School of Education offers a Doctor of Education (EdD) in Educational Leadership. Specific information about admissions, course of study, and the degree completion can be found at www.siue.edu/edd.

The School of Nursing offers a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. Specific information about admissions, plan of study, and graduation can be found in depth at www.siue.edu/nursing.

The School of Dental Medicine offers the latest technology in today's oral healthcare field helping over 8,000 patients a year receive excellent dental care through a state-of-the-art main clinic in Alton as well as a community clinic in East St. Louis. Information on admission to Doctor of Dental Science (DDS) may be found at www.siue.edu/dentalmedicine.

The School of Pharmacy offers technologically advanced classrooms, research laboratories and a contemporary curriculum that emphasizes critical thinking, problem solving, professionalism and teamwork. Information on admission to the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program can be found at www.siue.edu/pharmacy.

Two programs at the University have cooperative doctoral arrangements with academic units at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The prospective student with a completed or nearly completed master's degree can initiate the application process by submitting an application at either campus. Thereafter, the applicant will need to satisfy requirements for admission at each campus and be approved for admission to a cooperative doctoral program by the faculties of both campuses. Southern Illinois University Carbondale is the degree-granting institution for the cooperative doctoral degrees in Engineering and History.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES ACT

The University Religious Observances Act (110 ILCS 110/1.5(b)) states that any student in an institution of higher learning, other than a religious or denominational institution of higher learning, who is unable, because of his or her religious beliefs, to attend classes or to participate in any examination, study, or work requirement on a particular day shall be excused from any such examination, study, or work requirement and shall be provided with an opportunity to make up the examination, study, or work requirement that he or she may have missed because of such absence on a particular day; provided that the student notifies the faculty member or instructor well in advance of any anticipated absence or a pending conflict between a scheduled class and the religious observance and provided that the make-up examination, study, or work does not create an unreasonable burden upon the institution. No fees of any kind shall be charged by the institution for making available to the student such an
opportunity. No adverse or prejudicial effects shall result to any student because of his or her availing himself or herself of the provisions of this Section.