

**ADVISING GUIDELINES
FOR THE
MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE (M.Ed.)**

INTRODUCTION

This booklet provides Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree students with information about College of Education and Graduate School procedures to aid the advising process and to promote continuous and smooth progress toward completion of the degree.

There are three major steps toward the Master of Education degree:

1. admission and assignment of initial advisor and formation of Projected Program of Study (file typed **Form M-1**);
2. completion of the Program of Study;
3. completion of Proposed Program of Study (file typed **Form M-2** and typed **M.Ed. Degree Eligibility Form**).

Within the framework of University Graduate School regulations, and with the advice and approval of an academic advisor, Master's degree students plan programs of study that include a minimum of 33 credits beyond the baccalaureate degree.

NOTE: The School Counselor Education and School Psychology concentrations admit students into a joint Master's/Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree program. Students in the program receive their Master's and Ed.S. after completing a minimum of 63 credits (33 M.Ed. credits and 30 Ed.S credits).

Graduate School regulations, requirements, and administrative processes which affect your progress toward receipt of the degree are found in the Graduate School Bulletin and the Graduate School Handbook (<http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/policies-forms>). Refer to those documents for information, regulations, and procedures concerning enrollment status, statute of limitations, grading policy, academic average for graduate degrees, satisfactory or reasonable progress, maximum credit loads, course withdrawal, incomplete grade, academic dismissal, transfer of credits, leave of absence, continuous enrollment/program fee, off-campus registration, and readmission.

The guidelines that follow provide information which reflect elements unique to the College of Education (<http://www.umass.edu/education/>) or items which have proven especially helpful to College of Education graduate students.

To ensure a successful Master of Education degree, carefully follow the appropriate degree completion checklist and file the appropriate Master's degree forms provided on the College of Education website (<http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/advising-guidelines/masters-guidelines>) with the College of Education Office of Academic Affairs.

GENERAL ACADEMIC GUIDELINES

Minimum Credit Requirements

Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree concentrations in the College of Education must consist of at least 33 credits as follows:

- at least 12 credits at the 600 level or above;
- at least 21 credits in the College of Education;
- at least 18 letter-graded credits from UMass Amherst;
- minimum allowable grade is a C, however, you must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better to graduate;
- no greater than 9 credits from Independent Study or Independent Practicum;
- no courses below 500 level
- individual programs of study may specify a particular course sequence.

Satisfactory or Reasonable Progress

A student must make satisfactory and reasonable progress toward completion of a degree program within the Statute of Limitations for that degree. A student who is not making satisfactory or reasonable progress is subject to termination.

6/8/15