**PROPOSED Graduate School Catalog Policy:**

**Categories of Admission**

Persons applying for admission to the Graduate School, if accepted, may be admitted in one of several categories as described below:

* Regular Admission. Applicants with a complete application file, who meet the established requirements for admission to the Graduate School and their degree programs, are granted Regular Admission. To qualify for Regular Admission, a student must have earned an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work, or a 2.85 on a 4.0 scale cumulatively. An applicant with a graduate degree does not have to meet the undergraduate grade point average requirement.
* Conditional Admission. Some graduate programs allow promising students to take courses for one semester while they are completing their application file. To be considered for Conditional Admission, the student must provide an official transcript from a regionally accredited institution. International students should refer to the Graduate Catalog section on International Applicant Requirements.
	+ A conditionally admitted student can only attend classes for one semester while completing his/her application file. After the file is complete, the student will be considered for Regular Admission. If a conditionally admitted student fails to meet the requirements as stated in their conditional letter of acceptance, the student will not be allowed to enroll for any future terms until conditions are met.

If a student is conditionally admitted, one or more of the following conditions may apply:

* Must earn a GPA of 3.0 during the first term of enrollment.
* Must submit acceptable test scores.
* Must submit required letters of recommendation.
* Must submit an official, final transcript showing a conferred bachelor’s degree.
* Non-degree Admission. Applicants may apply to the Graduate School for admission as a non-degree graduate student. Applications for non-degree admission must submit an official transcript from a regionally accredited institution showing conferral of a baccalaureate-level degree, and must have earned an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work, or a 2.85 on a 4.0 scale cumulatively. An applicant with a graduate degree does not have to meet the undergraduate grade point average requirement. Please note that non-degree seeking students are not admitted to any degree program, are not eligible for financial assistance, and are not assigned to advisors.

Some programs allow non-degree students to take one or more graduate courses for self-improvement or exploration of graduate degree program offerings. However, a program may restrict enrollment into classes to degree-seeking students within its program. Check with the program director or academic department head to determine if the program allows non-degree students to be enrolled in a specific class.

Non-degree graduate students who wish to be considered for admission into a graduate degree program may do so by following the instructions noted above in the [Program Change](http://catalog.wcu.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=514#Program_Changes) section. Students should be aware that work completed in a non-degree status does not necessarily apply toward a degree, nor does being allowed to take courses imply acceptance into a degree program. If a student has taken courses in non-degree status and later is formally admitted as a degree candidate, the program may accept up to 9 non-degree credit hours. Admission as a non-degree graduate student does not guarantee admission into a graduate degree program. Non-degree students may not request transfer of credit.

**CURRENT Graduate School Catalog Policy:**

**Categories of Admission**

Persons applying for admission to the Graduate School, if accepted, may be admitted in one of several categories as described below:

* Regular Admission. Students with a complete application file, who meet the established requirements for admission to the Graduate School and their degree programs, are granted Regular Admission. To qualify for Regular Admission, a student must have earned an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work, or a 2.85 on a 4.0 scale cumulatively. An applicant with a graduate degree does not have to meet the undergraduate grade point average requirement.
* Provisional Admission. Some graduate programs allow applicants with a complete application file who do not meet the formal requirements for Regular Admission to be granted Provisional Admission. To move from Provisional Admission to Regular Admission, part-time students must earn at least a 3.0 GPA in their first nine semester hours of completed graduate credit; full-time students must earn at least a 3.0 GPA in their first term of full-time graduate study (nine hours or more of completed graduate level coursework). If provisionally admitted students fail to meet the requirements as stated in their letter of acceptance, the offer of admission to the Graduate School will be withdrawn.
* Conditional Admission. Some graduate programs allow promising students to take courses for one semester while they are completing their application file. To gain Conditional Admission, the student must provide evidence of holding a bachelor’s degree by submitting with his or her application an unofficial transcript from a regionally accredited institution. By the end of the semester, the student who wishes to continue taking graduate courses must complete his/her application file. Once the file is complete, the student must be awarded Regular Admission, Provisional Admission, or be denied admission.
* Non-degree Admission. Applicants may apply to the Graduate School for admission as a non-degree graduate student. Applications for non-degree admission must include a transcript (official or unofficial) from a regionally accredited institution showing conferral of a baccalaureate-level degree. Please note that non-degree seeking students are not admitted to any degree program, are not eligible for financial assistance, and are not assigned to advisors.

Some programs allow non-degree students to take one or more graduate courses for self-improvement or exploration of graduate degree program offerings. However, a program may restrict enrollment into classes to degree-seeking students within its program. Check with the program director or academic department head to determine if the program allows non-degree students to be enrolled in a specific class.

Non-degree graduate students who wish to be considered for admission into a graduate degree program may do so by following the instructions noted above in the [Program Change](http://catalog.wcu.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=514#Program_Changes) section. Students should be aware that work completed in a non-degree status does not necessarily apply toward a degree, nor does being allowed to take courses imply acceptance into a degree program. If a student has taken courses in non-degree status and later is formally admitted as a degree candidate, the program may accept up to 9 non-degree credit hours. Admission as a non-degree graduate student does not guarantee admission into a graduate degree program. Non-degree students may not request transfer of credit.

**Graduate School Catalog Policy:**

 If the above policy change for the “Categories of Admission” is approved and the provisional admission category is eliminated, then the following **Dismissal from the Graduate School policy** change would also need to be approved at the same time.

**Dismissal from the Graduate School:**
A graduate student who accumulates three grades of C or any grade of F will be dismissed from the Graduate School. Students will be informed in writing by the Graduate School at the time of dismissal.

**CURRENT Graduate School Catalog Policy:**

**Dismissal from the Graduate School:**
A graduate student who accumulates three grades of C or any grade of F will be dismissed from the Graduate School. **A student who has been admitted provisionally and fails to meet the terms of the provisional admission will also be dismissed from the Graduate School.** Students will be informed in writing by the Graduate School at the time of dismissal.