

**Western Michigan University  
Faculty Senate  
Memorandum of Action**

MOA – 25/02

Revise the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Policies Graduation and Academic Advising-  
Graduation Requirements for Earning a Second Bachelor's Degree

**Name of Council/Committee:**

Undergraduate Studies Council

**Approval Date:**

11 Feb. 2025

**Implementation Date:**

Upon Administrative Approval

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Undergraduate Studies Council recommends revision of the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Policies-Graduation and Academic Advising-Graduation Requirements-Requirements for Earning a Second Bachelor's Degree whereas students who have previously

*Diane E. Riggs*  
Diane E. Riggs (Apr 1, 2025 16:00 EDT)

Apr 1, 2025

Diane Riggs, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Council

Date

☐ Approve    ☐ Disapprove    ☐ Other Action

Comments:

*Amy Naugle*

Apr 1, 2025

Amy Naugle,

WMU Faculty Senate President

Date

☒ Approve    ☐ Disapprove    ☐ Other Action

Comments:

*Q. C. Cheatham*

Apr 14, 2025

Christopher Cheatham, Interim

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date

☒ Approve    ☐ Disapprove    ☐ Other Action

Comments:

*Edward Montgomery*

Apr 29, 2025

Edward Montgomery,

WMU President

Date

:

<b>Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Memorandum of Action</b>
<b>MOA – 25/02</b>
<b>Revise the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Policies Graduation and Academic Advising-Graduation Requirements for Earning a Second Bachelor's Degree</b>

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Undergraduate Studies Council recommends revision of the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Policies-Graduation and Academic Advising-Graduation Requirements-Requirements for Earning a Second Bachelor's Degree whereas students who have previously been awarded a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education and who enroll at WMU for an additional bachelor's degree are exempt from completion of the WMU general education program (currently WMU Essential Studies) requirements.

**RATIONALE/PURPOSE**

All accredited institutions require students to complete a general education program prior to receiving a bachelor degree. When students enroll at Western Michigan University (WMU) to obtain an additional bachelor's degree currently they are required to complete the WMU general education program (currently WMU Essential Studies) which leads to extra time toward graduation, additional tuition, and energy completing WMU's general education program. By waiving the WMU general education requirement for students seeking an additional bachelor's degree will allow students to complete the degree quicker and make WMU an economical and good choice for more students looking for an additional undergraduate degree.

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICE(S) AND ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL(S):**

Office of Admissions Registrar's Office

**STAKEHOLDERS**

WMU students, faculty, and staff

**HISTORY:**

- a) Effective date of current version:
- b) Date first adopted:
- c) Revision history:
- d) Proposed date of next review: spring 2028

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**CURRENT POLICY MODIFICATION** (additions in bold and deletions with strikethrough)

***Undergraduate Catalog Academic Policies  
Graduation and Academic Advising Graduation Requirement  
Requirements for Earning a Second Bachelor's Degree***

**WMU Graduates**

Students wishing to pursue two or more baccalaureate degrees either concurrently or otherwise from WMU must also meet these minimum requirements:

1. Completion of a minimum of 30 credits in residency beyond the requirements for the first degree.
2. Completion of new major requirements as well as all specified University, college, and program requirements.
3. Generally, no second degree will be granted from the discipline in which the first degree was earned. Rather than seeking a second bachelor's, students may enroll as post-baccalaureate students and have the completion of an additional major recorded on the transcript.
4. Program accreditation standards may impose additional requirements or limitations. Completion of certification requirements generally does not qualify the student for a second degree.

**Non-WMU Graduates**

Students who received a bachelor's degree from an institution other than Western Michigan University, must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Possession of a prior bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
2. Completion of a minimum of 30 credits in residency beyond the requirements for the first degree.
3. Completion of new major requirements as well as all specified University, college, and program requirements, ~~including~~ **excluding** WMU Essential Studies, and a minimum 2.0 grade point average.
4. Generally, no second degree will be granted from the discipline in which the first degree was earned.
5. Program accreditation standards may impose additional requirements or limitations. Completion of certification requirements generally does not qualify the student for a second degree.