

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY®

2017-2019 Graduate Catalog

Jackson, Mississippi 39217
Volume XX, Number 1

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Jackson State University is committed to the principles of equal education opportunity, equal employment, and affirmative action. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, age, religion, national origin, veteran status, or on any other illegal basis.

Jackson State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, master's, specialist, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Jackson State University.

Second-class postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi 39217. The official mailing address for the University is as follows:
1400 John R. Lynch Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39217, telephone number (601) 979-2121.
JSU's Internet homepage address is: www.jsums.edu

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UNIVERSITY DIRECTORY

Academic Affairs Vice President for Academic Affairs and Administration Tower, Seventh Floor, 601-979-2246.

Academic Assessment Graduate Advisor in major field.

Academic Information Graduate Dean, Administration Tower, First Floor, 601-979-2455.

Admissions, Graduate Admissions, Administration Tower, First Floor, 601-979-0342.

Alumni Affairs, 601-979-2281.

Athletic Tickets Athletics Office, Lee E. Williams Athletics and Assembly Center, 601-979-2420.

Automobile Registration Department of Public Safety, 601-979-2580.

Books and Supplies Bookstore, Student Center, First Floor, 601-979-2021.

Catalog Graduate Admissions, Administration Tower, First Floor, 601-979-2455.

Check Cashing Local Banks; ATM Facilities, Student Center, First Floor.

Curriculum Center College of Education Building, Third Floor, Room 314, 601-979-2435.

Degree Candidacy Graduate Advisor in major field.

Degree Audit Graduate Advisor in major field.

Development Office Administration Tower, Third Floor, 601-979-2282.

Dissertations Graduate Advisor in major field.

Drop-and-Add- Registrar and Records, B. F. Roberts, 601-979-2300.

Graduate Area Comprehensive Examinations Graduate Advisor in major field.

Graduate Assistantships and Scholarships Academic Departments.

Graduate English Competency Examination Graduate Advisor in major field.

Graduate Support and Fellowships Coordinator for Graduate Student Services, The Graduate Office, Administration Tower, First Floor, 601-979-2455.

Graduation Requirements Graduate Advisor in major field.

Human Resources Mississippi e-center, 601-979-2015.

Identification Cards Behind the Jacob L. Reddix Campus Union Building, 601-979-2407.

Illness Health Center, 601-979-2260.

Information Services Library Universities Center, Suite 8, 601-432-6313.

Information Technology Office Mississippi e-Center, 601-979-2144.

Institutional Advancement Vice President, Division of Institutional Advancement, Administration Tower, Third Floor, 601-979-2282.

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Department of Research Compliance, Sixth Floor Administration Tower, 601 979-2931.

Institutional Research and Planning Institutional Research and Planning, C.F. Moore 306, 601-979-2615.

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Department of Research Compliance, Sixth Floor Administration Tower, 601 979-2931.

International Students International Studies, 601-979-3794.

Job Placement Ground Floor, H.T. Sampson Library, 601-979-2477.

Library H. T. Sampson Library, 601-979-2123.

Lost and Found Department of Public Safety, 601-979-2580.

Mississippi Urban Research Center Jackson Medical Mall, 601-979-2931.

Name and Address Change Registrar and Records, B. F. Roberts, 601-979-2300.

Office of the President Ninth Floor, Administration Tower, 601-979-2323.

Research and Federal Relations Sixth Floor, Administration Tower, 601 979-2931.

Support Services for Students and Employees JSU Student Center, 2110 (601) 979-3704 or (601) 979-6919 [TTY].

Parking Violations Department of Public Safety, 601-979-2580.

Payment of Fees Financial Services, B. F. Roberts, 601-979-2215.

Postal Service Jacob L. Reddix Campus Union, First Floor, 601-979-2031.

Research Projects Graduate Advisor in major field.

Registration Degree Seeking Students in academic department; Non-Degree Seeking in the Division of Graduate Studies.

Schedule Changes Academic Department.

Scholarships Coordinator for Student Support Services, Administration Tower, First Floor. 601-979-2455.

Specialist Thesis/Project Graduate Advisor in major field.

Student Regulations Assistant Vice President for Student Life, 601- 979-2241.

Summer School Information Division of Graduate Studies, Administration Tower, First Floor, 601-979-2455.

Thesis Graduate Advisor in major field.

Transcripts Registrar and Records, B. F. Roberts, 601-979-2300.

Tuition Waivers Graduate Advisor in major field.

Universities Center Education and Research Center, Ridgewood Road, 601-432-6138.

Veterans Affairs Reddix Building, First Floor, 601-979-0889.

Jackson State University

- ❖ Mission/Purpose Statement
 - ❖ History of the University
 - ❖ Accreditation/Memberships
-

Jackson State University, a coeducational institution, is supported by the State of Mississippi. It is controlled by the Board of Trustees of Institutions of Higher Learning, appointed by the governor. The University is supported by legislative appropriations supplemented by student fees and federal and private grants.

Jackson State University is located in Jackson, Mississippi, the capital and largest city of the state. Jackson is the geographic, political, industrial, and cultural center of the state. The metropolitan area consists of a growing population presently estimated at 568,000. The location of the University in the densely populated section of central Mississippi is such that nearly one-half of the students come from within a fifty-mile radius of the institution; however, the population includes students from every county in the state. A significant number of students also come from outside the state including foreign countries.

The campus is a scenic 175-acre tract situated one mile west of the main business district of the city and is easily accessible from U.S. Highways 80, 49, and 51, and Interstates 20, 220, and 55. A modern airport with direct connections to major cities—north, south, east, and west—is about fifteen minutes away.

VISION STATEMENT

Building on its historic mission of empowering diverse students to become leaders, Jackson State University will become recognized as a challenging, yet nurturing, state-of-the-art technologically-infused intellectual community. Students and faculty will engage in creative research, participate in interdisciplinary and multi-instructional/organizational collaborative learning teams and serve the global community.

MISSION STATEMENT

The University produces technologically advanced, diverse, ethical, global leaders who think critically, address societal problems, and compete effectively.

PRINCIPLES FOR COLLEGIATE CODE OF CONDUCT

Jackson State University, adopted a Collegiate Code of Conduct, which is designed to enhance students' success inside the classroom as well as in their campus life. It is intended also to assist with building characteristics which will serve as guideposts for lifelong success, understanding and appreciating differences among diverse groups of people, and ultimately leading to a more harmonious learning environment which fosters respect for others and one's self.

The tenets for this covenant are:

1. **Integrity**—Respect and embrace the principles of academic honesty.
2. **Philosophy**—Embrace an academic philosophy for positive progress toward competency in goals, critical and logical thinking, and a commitment to excellence.
3. **Class Attendance**—Participate actively in classroom and other learning environments and commit to

becoming a lifelong learner.

4. **Diversity**—Celebrate the similarities and differences in our cultures, races, and ethnic origins.
5. **Communication**—Encourage open communication and expression which is guided by respect for others.
6. **Behavior**—Understand that sexual or social harassment will not be tolerated. Always dress for success.
7. **Profanity**—Discourage the use of profanity and offensive actions out of respect for others.
8. **Accountability**—Accept personal responsibility for one's actions and life choices and realize that embracing negative elements of an unhealthy lifestyle will interfere with success.
9. **Service**—Engage in civic opportunities to share knowledge and skills with local, national, and world communities.
10. **Respect**—Embrace and respect tradition by participating in rituals and observances, especially those that contribute to the history and heritage of the University. Respect others by using cell phones and other electronic devices only in appropriate settings.
11. **Assessment**—Conduct periodic assessments of academic, personal, and career progress. Stay focused on your purpose for being at the University.
12. **Safety**—Be alert to threats to safety and security and inform appropriate authorities of such situations.
13. **Freedom**—Respect the freedom of others to express themselves in matters relating to academic and philosophical opinions.

HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY

Jackson State University's distinguished history began in 1877 as the Natchez Seminary, a private church school set up in Natchez, Miss., under the auspices of the American Baptist Home Mission Society of New York. Beginning with only 20 students, the seminary educated newly freed African Americans as ministers and teachers.

In 1882, the society moved the school to Jackson, Miss., to the land where Millsaps College now stands. The seminary was renamed Jackson College in recognition of its new location in central Mississippi. Three years later, construction began on the site that is now the university's main campus.

After the turn of the 20th century, the institution began to broaden its course of study, and in 1924, the college awarded its first degree. By 1934, the American Baptist Home Mission Society had withdrawn its support for the college, which began efforts for the state to take control of the college.

In 1940, the school reorganized its curriculum as a two-year program and changed its name to the Mississippi Negro Training School. The state Institutions of Higher Learning then expanded the curriculum to a four-year teacher education program. The first graduating class under state support received Bachelor of Science degrees in Education in May 1944, two months after the school was renamed the Jackson College for Negro Teachers.

By 1967, the state had taken control of the school and renamed it Jackson State College. Through a legislative act in 1974, the college became Jackson State University. Five years later, the Institutions of Higher Learning officially designated JSU Mississippi's Urban University.

During the 1990s, the university's academic achievements were bolstered by the establishment of the School of Social Work; the formation of the School of Engineering; the opening of the School of Allied Health Sciences; the accreditation of the School of Business; and the expansion of the Master's in Public Policy and Administration to departmental status, which made it the only such department in Mississippi's higher education system. The university's infrastructure also grew with a \$13.5 million expansion and renovation of the H.T. Sampson Library, which doubled its size, the completion of a \$2 million restoration of historic Ayer Hall and the start of construction on a home for the School of Liberal Arts.

Jackson State made history in 1999 when it landed the Jackson Heart Study, the largest single-site, prospective, epidemiologic investigation of cardiovascular disease among African Americans ever undertaken. The study was initially funded through a \$12.9 million research grant and in 2005 was extended through 2013 with an additional \$54 million.

Jackson State saw much advancement during the first 10 years of the new millennium, including the creation of a five-square-mile urban laboratory surrounding the campus called e-City, which is a technology-based economic, housing and community development initiative. Out of that initiative came the Mississippi Learning Institute, which is a partnership with city and state educational leadership that provides a reading-based, math-oriented system for pre-K through undergraduate education.

Other successes in the new millennium include acquiring a \$20 million facility from Allstate Corporation for only \$3 million, which became home to the Mississippi e-Center @ JSU. The facility is now a technological hub for corporate, community and academic advancement. The university also undertook \$200 million in construction, which resulted in a new College of Liberal Arts, College of Business, Walter Payton Recreation and Wellness Center, Student Center, School of Engineering and the retail and residential development One University Place. The construction also brought new residence halls and apartments and the renovation of the Gibbs-Green Pedestrian Walkway. Also known as "the plaza," the decorative brick walkway provides an expanded pedestrian mall that beckons students and visitors from downtown Jackson to campus.

Jackson State's connection to downtown continued to be enhanced in 2010 with the establishment of the Civil Rights corridor along John R. Lynch Street. The corridor, which is home to the historic COFO Education Center, educates a new generation about the movement for equality.

Today, Jackson State continues its legacy of academic excellence while it secures its future. The university continues to be a top producer of African-American educators and biological and biomedical scientists, and *Washington Monthly* magazine ranks the university annually among the top colleges in the nation for social mobility, research and service. Jackson State also remains one of the top "Military Friendly Schools" in the country and one of two Historically Black Colleges or

Universities in the country for research and development expenditures.

With an enrollment of over 9,500 students, Jackson State University provides students from more than 50 foreign countries and all of Mississippi's 82 counties with the academic opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills to succeed. The university is accredited by the Commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award 43 bachelor's degrees, 36 master's degrees, three specialist-in-education degrees and 13 doctoral degrees.

ORGANIZATION OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

The academic programs of the University are organized into the College of Business; College of Education and Human Development; College of Liberal Arts; College of Public Service; College of Science, Engineering and Technology; Undergraduate Studies; Graduate Studies; and International Studies. Details for each graduate academic program are presented in the appropriate section of this catalog.

SUMMER SESSIONS

In breadth of offerings, the work of the Summer Sessions is substantially the same as that of the academic year. The summer programs provide opportunities for students who are interested in advancing their general culture, meeting teaching requirements, accelerating their college work, or pursuing the master's, specialist, or doctoral degree.

To complement its regular work, the University offers a variety of workshops, institutes, and special programs. In general, the teaching staff of the regular year stays in residence for the summer. Visiting professors are brought in when there is a need to supplement the staff or when there is a need for specialized courses.

Each year, a bulletin giving full information on the Summer Sessions is issued. This bulletin is posted on the JSU website.

ACCREDITATIONS

Jackson State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award the bachelor's, master's, education specialist, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Philosophy, and Doctor of Public Health degrees.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges is to be contacted only if there is evidence that appears to support an institution's non-compliance with accreditation requirements or standards.

- American Chemical Society
- American Psychological Association
- Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business
- Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology
- Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering
- Council on Rehabilitation Education
- Council on Social Work Education
- Council on Education for Public Health
- Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs
- Council on Accreditation in Audiology and Language-Speech Pathology
- National Association of Schools of Art and Design
- National Association of Schools of Music
- National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration
- National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education
- The Planning Accreditation Board

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
- American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business
- American Business Communication Association
- American College Health Association
- American Council on Education
- American Schools of Construction
- American Society for Engineering Education
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- Association of American Colleges
- Association of College Unions International
- Association of Departments of English
- Association of Departments of Foreign Language
- Association of State Colleges and Universities
- Campus Compact
- Conference of Southern Graduate Schools
- Cooperative Education Association
- Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
- Council of Graduate Schools
- Council of Historically Black Graduate Schools
- Directors of Volunteers in Agencies (DOVIA)
- Institute of International Education
- Mississippi Academy of Sciences
- Mississippi Association of College Student Affairs Professionals
- Mississippi Association of Colleges
- Mississippi Association of Colleges and Employers
- Mississippi Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- Mississippi Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
- Mississippi Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
- Mississippi Counseling Association
- National Association of College Deans, Registrars and Admissions Officers
- National Association of Colleges and Employers
- National Association of Student Affairs Professionals
- National Association of Veterans Programs Administrators
- National Center for Public Service Internship Program
- National Collegiate Honors Council
- National Council for Small Business Management Development
- National Student Exchange
- Southeastern Association of Colleges and Employers
- Southern Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
- Southern Business Administration Association
- Southern College Health Association

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Dr. Dorris R. Robinson-Gardner
Dean

Office: First Floor, Administration Tower

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e-mail: dorris.r.gardner@jsums.edu

- ❶ The Graduate Council
- ❶ Graduate Admissions
- ❶ Financial Aid and Tuition
- ❶ Academic Regulations
- ❶ Candidacy and Graduation Requirements
- ❶ General Information
- ❶ Residence Requirements

Graduate studies at Jackson State were authorized by the Board of Trustees in 1953. Instruction was limited to Educational Administration and Supervision, for which the first Master of Science in Education degrees were awarded in 1957. Dr. Augustus C. Blanks was the first Director of Graduate Studies. In 1959, Dr. Charles C. Mosley succeeded Dr. Blanks as director and eventually as Dean of the Graduate Program. He was followed by Dr. Oscar A. Rogers, who became Dean of the Graduate Program in 1969. In 1972, the Graduate Program was elevated to school status, the result of a comprehensive expansion effort. In that year, the Master of Business Administration, the Master of Arts, and the Specialist in Education degrees were offered for the first time, and in 1974, the Master of Science degree was offered. In 1982 the first Doctor of Education Degree was conferred in Early Childhood Education. Dr. Leslie Burl McLemore was appointed Dean of the Graduate School in August, 1984. Dr. Bettye Ward Fletcher was appointed Dean of the Graduate School in August, 1991. The Environmental Science Doctoral Program was implemented in the Fall of 1992 as an interdisciplinary program based upon the integration of natural and applied sciences. The Master of Social Work degree was instituted in August, 1995. In 1996, Dr. Lula S. Collier served as the Interim Dean of the Graduate School. The Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work began in August, 1997. Dr. Dorris R. Robinson-Gardner became Dean of the Graduate School in August, 1997. The University is classified as a research university (high research activity) by the Carnegie Foundation.

The Division of Graduate Studies has supervision of all graduate work at the University. The Division of Graduate Studies is composed of the departments which offer graduate instruction leading to master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees. The faculty of the Division of Graduate Studies consists of those faculty members in the departments who are qualified to teach and do research on the graduate level. Members of the graduate faculty engage in scholarly pursuits in terms of research, writing, publishing, and participating in professional organizations.

The University is authorized by the Board of Trustees of Institutions of Higher Learning to offer the Doctor of Education Degree in Early Childhood Education, the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Business Administration, Chemistry, Clinical Psychology, Computational and Data-Enabled Science and Engineering, Educational Administration, Engineering, Environmental Science, Public Administration, Social Work, Urban Higher Education, and Urban and Regional Planning and the Dr.P.H. in Public Health.

The Graduate Council

The Graduate Council is responsible for the development and coordination of general policies and procedures for graduate programs and the maintenance of uniform standards for the admission of students and for the awarding of graduate degrees. It is, therefore, the responsible body to recommend, initiate, develop, and approve graduate programs.

Acting with the Graduate Dean, the Graduate Council may initiate plans for improvement of graduate instruction, set standards for the Graduate Faculty, and, in general, oversee the proper functioning of the Division of Graduate Studies.

The Graduate Council consists of a representative, usually the Department Chair, from each department and program offering graduate degrees. At the Annual University Fall Faculty Seminar, an additional representative from each School is elected for one year by the assembled graduate faculty. The Graduate Dean also appoints for one or two year terms additional members from the faculty at large in order to ensure balanced representation. Two graduate students are appointed by the Dean for one year. These representatives act in an advisory capacity and are charged with the transmittance to their departments of the deliberations of the Graduate Council and are also charged to bring recommendations to the Council.

During the academic year, the Graduate Council meets during the following months: August, October, November, February, March and April. Special meetings of the Council may be called by the Dean or by a majority of the Council members.

The Graduate Faculty

The Graduate Faculty consists of the President, Provost, the academic deans and those members of the general faculty who, by their scholarly attainments in their own fields of specialization have demonstrated their competence to offer graduate instruction.

The purpose and functions of the Graduate Faculty, within limits established by the Board of Trustees, are to offer graduate courses, supervise thesis and dissertation research, and advise the Graduate Council and the Graduate Dean on the establishment of policies relating to graduate education. The major advisory functions of the Graduate Faculty are carried on by committees appointed by the Graduate Dean. Appointment to the Graduate Faculty is made by the Provost.

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS

Admission is granted jointly by Graduate Studies and the program in which the student plans to study. Each program has its own procedures for evaluating applications. Once all required information is received by Graduate Admissions, an admission packet is sent to the appropriate department for its decision. Once the Graduate Studies receives a recommendation from the graduate faculty of the department and the College Dean or designee, applicants are notified by the Graduate Dean of the decision to admit, conditionally admit, or deny. Admission decisions are valid for 12 months for purposes of initial enrollment.

The Graduate Application can be submitted online by visiting the Jackson State University Graduate Studies website at: **www.jsums.edu/graduateschool**

Forms may also be requested from Graduate Studies at the following address:

Graduate Studies
P.O. Box 17095
1400 J. R. Lynch Street
Jackson, MS 39217-0195.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all admission documents are received in the Graduate Studies office on or before the application deadline. All credentials submitted on behalf of an applicant become the property of the University and may be maintained for up to one year. Materials from applicants who do not submit all requested material may be shredded and discarded after one year.

All required information **MUST** be received by the following deadlines. Required information includes:

1. Application
2. Two Official Transcripts from all accredited colleges and universities attended. (Graduate Admissions will retain one transcript and one copy will be forwarded to the academic program.)
3. Proof of immunization for measles, mumps and rubella is required of all students, unless exempt because of (a) actual, suspected or planned pregnancy, (b) medical contraindication, (c) birth prior to 1957, or (d) graduation from a Mississippi public or private secondary school since 1993.
4. Application Fee, if applicable.
5. Departmental/program documentations and test scores.
6. Official TOEFL score and financial support documentation for international applicants.

General Priority Application Deadlines

Semester	Deadline
Fall	March 1
Summer	March 15
Spring	October 15

Deadlines for Selected Programs

January 15

Fall Enrollment

Ph. D. in Clinical Psychology

March 1

Fall Enrollment

M.A. in Sociology
M.A. in Criminal Justice
M.P.H. in Public Health
Dr.P.H. in Public Health
M.S. in Community Counseling
M.S.Ed.in School Counseling
M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling
M.S.W. (Full-time) and Ph.D. in Social Work
M.S. in Communicative Disorders
Ph.D. in Computational & Data Enabled Science
Ph. D. in Educational Administration
Ph.D. in Engineering
Ph. D. in Environmental Science
Ph. D. in Public Administration
Ph.D. in Urban Higher Education
Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Planning

March 15

Fall Enrollment

Ed. D. in Early Childhood Education
Ph.D. in Business Administration

Summer Enrollment

MSW Program - Advanced Standing and Part-time
M.S. in Educational Administration & Supervision

Summer/Fall Enrollment

Ed.S. in Education (all concentrations)

Applications received after the enrollment deadline for the desired enrollment period will be processed for the next enrollment period. Selected academic programs only admit once a year. Please refer to the department's section of the catalog, or the departmental website.

Note: Each program, department or school may have admission requirements and standards above the general standards listed below. The student should consult the catalog section for the program, department and academic school for additional requirements.

General Admission Requirements for the Master's Level

Applicants interested in pursuing a master's degree should submit to Graduate Studies:

1. The Graduate Application for Admission,
2. Official copies of transcripts from all 4 year accredited colleges/universities attended, (One transcript will be retained by the Graduate Admissions office and one copy will be forwarded to the academic program.)
3. Out-of State Applicants must submit a \$25.00 application fee using a money order.
4. Proof of immunization for measles, mumps and rubella is required of all students, unless exempt because of (a) actual, suspected or planned pregnancy, (b) medical contraindication, or (c) birth prior to 1957,

Other requirements, sent directly to the program or department include:

1. Three (3) letters of recommendation.
2. Special application forms and materials required by departments. Please refer to the department's section of the catalog, or the website.

3. Standardized test scores. Please refer to the department's section of the catalog, or the website.

International Applicants must also submit the following:

1. A satisfactory TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), PET-A, or IELTS score submitted, or successful completion of ESLI (English as a Second Language).
2. A required \$25.00 application fee submitted by a money order, or electronically using a debit/credit card.
3. Two certified, translated copies of all transcripts, mark sheets, and diplomas direct from the university/college(s) to Graduate Studies. A minimum GPA of 3.00 (B average) at the undergraduate level for regular admission. A cumulative GPA of at least 2.50 at the undergraduate level (4.0 scale) is required for conditional admission status.
4. Certified Declaration of Financial Support on file in the Office of International Programs.

Once all required information is received by the Graduate Admissions office a transmittal packet is sent to the appropriate department for its decision. Graduate Studies receives a recommendation from the department and the College Dean or designee; applicants are notified by the Graduate Dean of the decision to admit, conditionally admit, or deny. An admission decision is valid for 12 months. Thereafter, the applicant should contact Graduate Admissions for readmission.

Graduate Studies considers admission to degree programs for only those students who have earned degrees (bachelor's, master's, specialist) from regionally accredited colleges or universities. Students admitted to Graduate Studies are classified as:

1. Regularly admitted status,
2. Qualifying Status,
3. Conditionally admitted status,
4. Non-degree Status.

Regular status is awarded to students who have a minimum GPA of 3.00 (on a 4.00 Scale) at the undergraduate level and are admitted to a degree program.

Qualifying Status is awarded to students who have a minimum GPA of 3.00 (on a 4.00 Scale) at the undergraduate level but require the completion of prerequisites prior to admission to a degree program. The degree program specifies the prerequisites. Please refer to the department's section of the catalog.

Conditional Status may be assigned to students who possess a cumulative GPA of at least 2.50-2.99 at the undergraduate level (on a 4.0 scale) and are admitted to a degree program. Students must earn regular status in the first semester of full time enrollment (i.e. a minimum of 9 CREDIT hours during the semester of enrollment), or in the first 12 CREDIT hours of part-time enrollment by acquiring a GPA of 3.00 in the first 12 hours of graduate work (i.e. 3.00 semester GPA for first and next semester). During the period of "conditional status", students may not earn a letter grade of "C" or lower.

Non-Degree Status at the Master's- level

Students may be granted special admission to earn certification, update professional skills, earn transfer credit, or to attend a workshop. *Only selected graduate courses are available.* Applicants for non-degree status file only:

1. Application for Admission and Non-degree Enrollment Forms.

2. Official copies of transcript(s) direct from college(s) to the Graduate Admission Office with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.50 at the undergraduate level (on 4.0 scale).

Please note the following:

- Students in Non-Degree status may not enroll in more than six (6) hours per semester.
- Not more than twelve (12) hours may be taken while in Non-Degree status.
- Approval for Non-Degree status does not guarantee subsequent admission to a degree-conferring program.
- Non-Degree students who may wish to continue at a later date must earn a 3.00 average for any graduate courses completed.
- Non-Degree students who wish to earn a degree at a later date must meet all regular admission criteria and earn a GPA of 3.00 for any course completed in non-degree status.
- Credit earned in Non-Degree status is treated as transfer credit. A maximum of 12 hours may be transferred to a degree program.

**General Admission Requirements
for the Specialist Degree**

Applicants interested in pursuing a Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) degree should submit to Graduate Studies **by the January 15 deadline:**

1. The Graduate School Application for Admission.
2. A master's degree with the departmental required minimum GPA.
3. Official copies of transcripts from all 4 year accredited colleges/universities attended (One transcript will be retained by Graduate Admissions and one copy will be forwarded to the academic program).
4. Out-of State applicants must submit a \$25.00 application fee by money order, or electronically using a debit or credit card.
5. Proof of immunization for measles, mumps and rubella is required of all students, unless exempt because of (a) actual, suspected or planned pregnancy, (b) medical contraindication, (c) birth prior to 1957, or (d) graduation from a Mississippi public or private secondary school since 1993.

Other requirements, sent directly to the program or department include,

1. Three (3) letters of recommendation.
2. Special application forms and materials required by department. Please refer to the department's section of the catalog.
3. Standardized test scores, refer to the department's section of the catalog.

International Applicants must also submit the following:

1. A satisfactory TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), PET-A, or IELTS score submitted, or successful completion of ESLI (English as a Second Language).
2. A \$25.00 application fee using a money order, or electronically using a debit or credit card.
3. Two certified, translated copies of all transcripts, mark sheets, and diplomas direct from the university/college(s) to Graduate Studies.
4. Certified Declaration of Financial Support on file in the Department of International Programs.

Non-Degree Status for the Specialist Level

Students may be granted special admission to earn certification, update professional skills, earn transfer credit, or to attend a workshop. *Only selected graduate courses are available.* Applicants for non-degree status submit only:

1. Application for Admission and Non-degree Enrollment form to the Graduate Admission Office.
2. Transcript(s) direct from college(s) to the Graduate Admission Office indicating a master's degree and the department-required minimum GPA.

Please note the following:

- Students in Non-Degree status may not enroll in more than six (6) hours per semester.
- Not more than twelve (12) hours may be taken while in Non-Degree status.
- Approval for Non-Degree status does not guarantee subsequent admission to a degree-conferring program.
- Non-Degree students who may wish to continue at a later date must earn a 3.00 average for any graduate courses completed.
- Non-Degree students who wish to earn a degree at a later date must meet all regular admission criteria and earn a GPA of 3.00 for any course completed in non-degree status.
- Credit earned in Non-Degree status is treated as transfer credit. A maximum of 12 hours may be transferred to a degree program.

General Admission Requirements for Doctoral Degrees

Applicants interested in pursuing a doctoral degree (Ph.D., Dr.P.H., or Ed.D.) should submit to Graduate Studies:

1. The Graduate Application for Admission,
2. Official copies of transcripts from all 4 year colleges/universities attended. (One transcript will be retained by the Office of Graduate Admissions and one copy will be forwarded to the academic program.)
3. A Master's degree (or a baccalaureate degree for Chemistry and Clinical Psychology) from an accredited 4 year college or university depending on specific program requirements,
4. A minimum GPA of 3.00 (on a 4.00 Scale) and the - program/department required minimum GPA on the highest degree earned,
5. Out-of-state applicants must submit a \$25.00 application fee by money order or electronically by using a debit or credit card.
6. Proof of immunization for measles, mumps and rubella is required of all students, unless exempt because of (a) actual, suspected or planned pregnancy, (b) medical contraindication, (c) birth prior to 1957, or (d) graduation from a Mississippi public or private secondary school since 1993.

Other requirements, sent directly to the program or department include,

1. Three (3) letters of recommendation.
2. Special application forms and materials required by departments, refer to the department's section of the catalog.
3. Standardized test scores, refer to the department's section of the catalog.
4. A written statement of purpose.

International Applicants must also submit the following:

1. A satisfactory TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), PET-A, or IELTS Score submitted or successful completion of ESLI.
2. A \$25.00 application fee using a money order or electronically using a debit or credit card.
3. Two certified, translated copies of all transcripts, mark sheets, and diplomas direct from the university /college(s) to the Graduate School.
4. Certified Declaration of Financial Support on file in the Department of International Programs.

Admission of Faculty and Staff Members

Jackson State University faculty and staff members may be admitted to the Graduate School through established procedures and meet all admission criteria.

Readmission

Readmission is NOT automatic. Readmission requires approval by the major department, the Academic College Dean or designee, and Graduate Studies.

The student must file a Readmission Application at least three weeks before the beginning of the semester. The student should consult with the major department or academic school before starting this process.

Inactive Students

Students with "inactive" status must apply for readmission. An inactive student is one who in the last twelve-month period has NOT:

1. Registered for at least three credit hours, or
2. Registered for continuous registration, or
3. Registered for thesis/dissertation, or
4. Received a leave of absence.

If the student wants to be readmitted to graduate study, the student has to file for readmission before being permitted to register.

An application for readmission is not required under the following circumstances:

1. If the student has registered during the Spring Semester and returns in the subsequent Fall semester.
2. If the student attended the preceding summer session but does not register during any semester of the intervening academic year.

Transfer of Credit at Time of Admission

Graduate credit may be transferred from graduate schools of regionally accredited institutions. Transfer credit is not automatic and is made upon the recommendation of the chairperson of the major department, the academic college dean or designee and approval of the Dean of Graduate Studies. Credits are usually transferred during or at the end of the student's first semester of enrollment. Students should not assume that all graduate credits earned at other institutions will transfer.

Only those hours in which the student has achieved a grade of "B" will be considered for transfer. These credits must be in an area that is the same as, or closely related to, the major field of concentration. Students should consult with the specific degree program for regulations pertaining to the program. Time limits apply to transfer credit. All master's and specialist students must complete their programs within eight years of starting coursework at Jackson State or elsewhere.

A maximum of 15 semester hours of transfer may be applied toward the doctoral degree. Students should consult with the specific degree program for regulations pertaining to the program. Time limits apply to transfer credit.

A student who has previously registered as non-degree seeking in Graduate Studies should note that work taken in this category is treated as transfer credit if the student is later admitted to a degree program. A maximum of 12 semester hours may be transferred to a graduate degree program from non-degree status, subject to approval by the department chairperson and the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Courses taken while a student is registered in other schools of the University are treated as transfer credit if applied later to graduate degrees. Such courses may not be used to meet residency requirements.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION

A prospective student who is not a US citizen applying for admission to Jackson State University as a graduate student must apply for admission by March 1, for Fall enrollment; October 1, for Spring enrollment; and March 15, for Summer enrollment. Applicants must submit the following required documents.

1. Application for Admission with \$25.00 admission fee using a money order.
2. Three (3) letters of recommendation from former college professors sent directly to the department or program.
3. **Master's applicants:** A minimum GPA of 3.00 (B average) at the undergraduate level or possess a cumulative GPA of at least 2.50 at the undergraduate level (4.0 scale) for conditional status. **Specialist applicants:** must hold a master's degree and the department-required minimum GPA. **Doctoral applicants:** a minimum GPA of 3.00 (on a 4.00 Scale) and the program or department required minimum GPA on the highest degree earned.
4. A satisfactory TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS Score must be submitted or successful completion of ESLI.
5. Certified, translated copies of all transcripts, mark sheets, and diplomas direct from the college(s) Graduate Studies.
6. Special application forms and materials required by a department or academic college, if required.
7. Certified Declaration of Financial Support on file in the Department of International Studies.
8. Immunization Record showing proof of immunization compliance for measles and rubella, if born after Dec. 1957.

English Language Proficiency Requirements for International Students

All applicants to Jackson State University must show proof of English Language proficiency. For international students, this is most commonly demonstrated through the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). However, JSU accepts additional methods of determining English Proficiency.

Conditional admission to Jackson State University may be granted to international students with a stipulation of successfully completing all levels of English study at the English as a Second Language Institute (ESLI) of the Department of International Studies. This qualifies students to be admitted to all undergraduate and graduate programs provided they fulfill all other academic requirements needed in their respective majors except English Literature which requires TOEFL score of 233 for the Master of Arts degree.

If Conditional Admission to JSU is received:

1. The student will receive an I-20 document from JSU to apply for a student visa from their country of origin.
2. The I-20 document will state that the student is admitted to JSU to study an academic degree program and major. It will also state that the student will study English at JSU before beginning study in the academic major and degree program.

International Student Advisor

A student from outside the United States attending Jackson State University on a non-immigrant (F-1 or J-1) student visa is advised through the Department of International Programs. Upon arrival on campus, all international students must report to the International Student Advisor, located at the central office, 1330 John R. Lynch Street. Advisement is offered under the guidelines of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in the following areas: (1) maintaining student visa status; (2) proper transfer to other school(s); (3) off-campus work authorization; (4) social security card information; (5) health insurance; (6) travel outside the United States; (7) change of visa status; and (8) reinstatement to student status.

The International Student Advisor will issue an I-20 form to new international students who are accepted to attend a full course of study at Jackson State University. Financial documentation must be forwarded to the Department of International Programs prior to an I-20 form being released for the student visa. International students must inform the International Student Advisor of matters such as enrollment status, change of an address, change of major, legal name change, and/or any disciplinary action taken by the university as a result of the student being convicted of a crime. For more information, contact the International Student Advisor at (601) 979-3794.

Changing Departments or Programs

To transfer from one major department to another during a term in which a student is registered, the student is required to submit a new application.

To transfer from one program to another program located in the same department, the student is required to submit a "Program Transfer form" and submit it to the current major department, requesting transfer. If the department approves, the approval is noted, a current degree evaluation is attached to the form, and forwarded to the Graduate Dean for final action.

GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT

Students who wish to apply for graduate student support must be admitted to Graduate Studies as a degree-seeking student and must complete the required application form. Address requests for applications to Graduate Coordinator of Student Services, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi 39217.

Certain departments and academic schools have departmental support for graduate students; interested students should contact the department chair or the dean of the college for further information.

Graduate Assistantships

Graduate Studies awards assistantships each year with a monthly stipend plus tuition for one academic year—Fall and Spring. To qualify for an assistantship the applicant must have at least a 3.00 average on a 4.00 scale, be able to carry at least 9 semester hours of course work each semester and be able to contribute 12 hours for

master-level student or 15 hours for a doctoral level student of useful service weekly to a department or academic college. Applications may be obtained from Graduate Studies. Students should apply directly to the department chair or academic dean of the desired major field. The deadline for submitting applications is March 1.

Graduate Tuition-waivers

Graduate Studies, through the departments offering graduate studies, administers a number of tuition waivers. These scholarships provide tuition expense only and may vary in amount from partial to full tuition waiver. Application procedure is the same as outlined under Graduate Assistantships. Tuition-waivers are awarded per academic year. The deadline for submitting applications is March 1.

Diversity Scholarships

Students who wish to apply for a diversity scholarship must be admitted to Graduate Studies as a degree-seeking student and must complete the University's Application for a Diversity Scholarship. Preference is given to Mississippi residents. Applications are available from department chairs and academic deans or designee. Students should apply directly to the department chair and academic dean or designee of the desired major field. Scholarships are awarded per academic year. The deadline for submitting applications is March 1.

Staff Tuition Waivers

Full-time staff of Jackson State University who qualifies for admission may, with the approval of the immediate supervisor, have tuition and general fees remitted for two courses (including accompanying laboratory) per semester or per summer session. Supervisors are authorized to allow employees to take course work during their lunch hour, whenever possible (provided the course does not exceed the one hour allotted for lunch, which should be taken between the hours of 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.).

FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

The Financial Aid department at Jackson State University coordinates all financial assistance offered to students. The fundamental purpose of the financial aid program is to make it possible for students to attend school who would normally be deprived of a post-secondary education. Financial Aid is economic assistance available to help a student meet the difference between what he/she can afford to pay and what it will actually cost to attend Jackson State University. This economic assistance may be in the form of grants, loans, employment, scholarships or a combination of any of these programs.

Students seeking federal financial assistance are required to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The priority deadline date for Jackson State University is April 15 of each year.

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

(FAFSA) – www.fafsa.ed.gov

All aid is contingent upon admission; therefore, a student must apply for admission to the University. Federal Financial Aid Programs fall into one of three categories: grants, loans and work-study. Grants are financial aid that students do not have to pay back unless; the student withdraws from school and owes a refund.

LOAN

Loans are borrowed money that must be repaid with interest. The types of loans available are:

1. Federal Perkins Loans

2. Federal Stafford Loans
3. Federal Plus Loans

FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN The **Federal Perkins Loan** is a low-interest (5%) loan obtained through the University to help finance a student's college education. These loans are for both undergraduate and graduate students with exceptional financial need. A student may borrow up to \$5,500 for each year of undergraduate study and \$8,000 each year for graduate or professional study. A student must sign a promissory note agreeing to repay the loan before the school will either pay him/her directly or credit the student's account. The student will receive the loan within at least two payments during the academic year. A student has a period of time before repayment of the loan begins, called a "grace period." Half-time students have a grace period of nine months after he/she graduates, leaves school, or drops below half time. At the end of the grace period, the student must begin repaying the loan. He/she may be allowed up to 10 years to repay it.

Federal Direct Stafford Loans (Subsidized and Unsubsidized) are low interest loans made by the U. S. Department of Education to students enrolled at least half time. For loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2009, the interest rate is 6.8 percent for subsidized loans for undergraduates, and 6.8 percent for unsubsidized loans for undergraduates and graduates. The Federal Stafford "Subsidized" Loan is based on financial need, but the Federal Stafford "Unsubsidized" Loan is not. The Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans combined cannot exceed loan maximums set by the Department of Education per academic year.

Eligible loan amounts are determined by the Cost of Attendance minus Expected Family Contribution, minus any other assistance the student may receive. After the student graduates, leaves school, or drops below halftime, he/she has six months before beginning repayment. This is called a "grace period" if it is a Subsidized Stafford Loan; he/she will not have to pay any principal or interest during that period. If the student has an Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, he/she will be responsible for the interest from the time the loan is disbursed until the loan is paid in full. Student Loan Entrance and Exit Interviews are required for all loan borrowers. Students may contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

The **Federal Direct PLUS Loan** is a loan for the parent of a dependent child who is enrolled at least half time. In addition, graduate or professional degree students may obtain PLUS Loans to help pay for their own education. This loan is made through the U. S. Department of Education. Credit checks are required.

The yearly loan limit is the cost of attendance minus any estimated financial aid for which the student is eligible. The Direct PLUS loan interest rate is 7.90%. Repayment begins on the date of the last disbursement for the period in which the loan was disbursed.

The **Federal Work Study Programs** provides part-time jobs for students who have financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay educational expenses. The program encourages community service work. At Jackson State University, students work in various offices and departments with their work schedule built around their academic class schedule. The amount of the FWS award depends on the student's financial need and the amount of money the school has been allocated for the program. In arranging a job and assigning a work schedule, the work study coordinator will take into account the student's class schedule, health and the skills needed to perform the assigned duties. The salary received will be based on the current minimum wage. The student will be allowed to work up to 15 hours

per week unless otherwise indicated. Under no circumstances can a student earn as much FWS money as he/she wants. The total amount of aid awarded from Federal and Non-Federal sources cannot exceed the student's financial need. The student is paid twice per month.

The **University Work Aid** is a non-need program that provides jobs for students who are unable to qualify for the Federal Work Study Program. These funds are available for students who possess a needed skill or talent. Students are employed in a variety of University offices and departments. In order to qualify, the student must:

- Demonstrate financial need, except for certain loan programs;
- Have a high school diploma or a General Education Development (GED) certificate;
- Enroll as a regular student seeking a degree or certificate in an eligible program;
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen;
- Have a Social Security Number;
- Make satisfactory academic progress;
- Have certification that federal aid will be used only for educational expenses;
- Certify there is no default on a federal loan and does not owe money on a federal grant;
- Be registered with Selective Service, if required.

VERIFICATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Office of Financial Aid conducts verification on all applicants selected for verification by the Department of Education edit checks. Applicants selected for verification must submit the following documents to the Financial Aid Office:

1. Signed copy of the Federal Income Tax Returns (or other acceptable tax documents) of the applicant and or spouse, or parent(s), if applicable;
2. A completed Verification Worksheet (dependent or independent) listing household size, number in college, and other untaxed income and benefits. The information submitted on the FAFSA is compared with the information contained in the official documents submitted to complete verification (tax returns or other acceptable documents and verification worksheets). The verification process can take four to six weeks from the time all required documents are received.

NOTE: Verification documents requested by the Financial Aid Office must be submitted within sixty (60) days of the request. If the requested information is not received within the sixty (60) days, the application for financial assistance will not be processed until verification is completed.

CORRECTION PROCESS

Once all documents are received, corrections, if any are needed, will be made electronically. If the verification process results in a change in the expected family contribution (EFC), the student will receive an acknowledgment letter from the U.S. Department of Education with the corrected data. The student will also receive notification from the Financial Aid Office via his/her JSU web account. The electronic correction process takes 7 to 10, working days. Once the correction is received, the student will be awarded and notified.

CONFLICTING INFORMATION

Conflicting information must be resolved prior to disbursing federal student aid to students. If conflicting information is discovered after disbursing federal student aid, the discrepancies must still be resolved and the appropriate action must be taken based on specific

program requirements. Conflicting information is separate and distinct from verification and must be resolved whether or not the student is selected for verification.

REFERRALS TO THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Office of Financial Aid will refer to the Inspector General of the Department of Education any credible information indicating that an applicant for Title IV Program assistance may have engaged in fraud or other criminal misconduct in connection with his or her application. Examples of this information are:

1. False claims of independent student status;
2. False claims of citizenship;
3. Use of false identities;
4. Forgery of signatures or certification;
5. False statements of income; and
6. Other illegal conduct involving the administration of Title IV Programs.

RECOVERY OF FUNDS (OVERPAYMENTS)

Jackson State University will make every effort to avoid overpayment of Federal funds to financial aid recipients. If a financial aid recipient receives an overpayment as a result of the verification process, the Office of Financial Aid will eliminate the overpayment. The overpayment will be eliminated by adjusting subsequent financial aid payments during the award year or reimbursing the Federal Program account within sixty (60) days of the recipient's last day of attendance or the last day of the award year, whichever is earlier. **APPLICANTS WHO OWE A REPAYMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FEDERAL AID UNTIL THE OVERPAYMENT IS PAID IN FULL.**

STANDARDS FOR SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Section 484 of the Higher Education Act (HEA), as amended, requires that a student maintains satisfactory progress in the course of study he or she is pursuing according to the standards and practices of the institution in which he or she is enrolled in order to receive aid under the student financial assistance programs authorized by Title IV of the HEA. These programs include the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG), Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG), National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (SMART), Leveraging Education Assistance Partnership Program (LEAP), Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loan, and the Federal Family Educational Loan Program.

Standards for Academic Progress

Graduate students must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress Standard as set by the Graduate School (adequate progress toward completion of degree requirements and cumulative GPA of 3.0 and above). Graduate students must complete a minimum percentage of hours attempted (grades of "F", "W" and "I" are counted as attempted; however, not as completed). Students have a two semester probationary period including the current semester enrolled. Failure to bring the cumulative GPA into compliance and or complete the required hours renders the student ineligible for financial aid and the student is denied Title IV assistance.

MAXIMUM TIME FRAME

Financial aid eligibility is subject to the maximum time frame limits noted below:

Quantitative Standards

Students are expected to complete the requirements for degree within a reasonable time frame. Students must pass a minimum percentage

of JSU courses attempted. For this standard students must pass 67% of hours attempted.

Grades

Grades of “D”, “F”, “W” (withdrawn), and “I” (incomplete) do not count towards satisfactory academic progress; however, they are counted as attempted hours. Also, all repeated hours are counted as attempted hours.

Satisfactory academic progress is measured bi-annually at the end of the fall and spring semesters.

Probation

Failure to complete the required hours and maintain the appropriate cumulative GPA will result in a two semester probationary period including the current semester enrolled. Failure to bring the cumulative GPA into compliance and or complete the required hours, at this point, will be considered as not maintaining satisfactory academic progress and therefore renders the student ineligible for Title IV assistance.

Appeal Procedures

Students who fail to maintain satisfactory progress or have not met degree requirements may appeal the denial by explaining the mitigating circumstances in writing to the Chairperson of the Financial Aid Appeals Committee by the last published date to complete registration. Appeals received after this date will be considered for the next semester.

Reinstatement

The Financial Aid Appeals Committee will review the appeal for reinstatement of aid. The decision will be based on the strength of the appeal, the documentation submitted, and the academic record. Financial aid will be reinstated for students who reestablish eligibility by maintaining the standards of satisfactory academic progress.

Mitigating Circumstances

Mitigating circumstances are special or unusual circumstances or conditions that have affected the student’s ability to progress according to specified standards. These circumstances may include, but not limited to, bereavement, illness, emotional or personal difficulties, disability, eviction and undue hardship based on traumatic occurrences. These circumstances must be explained in detail when appealing a financial aid denial. The Financial Aid Office at Jackson State University does not discriminate against students on the basis of sex, handicap, race, color, religion or national origin, pursuant to the requirements of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other applicable statutes.

TUITION and FEES

Fees are subject to change upon approval of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning.

Full-Time Students - State resident students who register for 9.0-13.0 semester hours will pay a flat rate per semester. State resident students that register for more than 13.0 semester hours will pay the flat rate plus a prorated amount for each hour over 13.0 hours. In addition to the regular fees assessed graduate students, out-of-state students will pay an out-of-state fee.

Part-Time Students - A graduate student carrying fewer than 9 hours is considered part time. Part-time students are assessed tuition on a prorated amount per semester hour. Out-of-state students must pay, an additional prorated amount per semester hour.

Auditing Students - A person may audit a course at the University without being officially enrolled as a degree-seeking student. The student must, however, be eligible for admission to the University. A fee is charged per semester hour for each course, and no refund is made if the course is dropped at any time after registration.

Examinations Charges

Entering students are assessed a testing fee for the Graduate English Competency Examination.

Thesis and Dissertation Fees

Master’s and Specialist students completing a thesis are assessed a thesis fee. Doctoral students are assessed a dissertation fee.

Tuition Policy Adjustment

Tuition adjustments are based on the date that classes begin and the date a course is dropped or on the date of withdrawal. Students withdrawing from the University before the close of a semester must complete the “Application for Withdrawal” form. This form can be picked up in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, located in the Student Affairs Building.

Withdrawals and Refunds

The Higher Education Amendments of 1998 (HEA98) represent a major shift in the Return of Title IV Federal Financial Aid when a student withdraws from the University.. The policy governs all federal grant and loan programs but does not include the Federal Work Study program. In general, it is assumed that a student “earns” approved/verified federal financial aid awards in proportion to the number of days in the term prior to the student’s complete withdrawal. If a student completely withdraws from the University during a term, the University must calculate, according to a specific formula, the portion of the total financial assistance that the student has earned and is entitled to retain, until the time that the student withdrew.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

HONOR CODE

I will be honest in all of my academic coursework and will not indulge in or tolerate the academic dishonesty of my counterparts or peers. I will not partake in any type of misconduct, misrepresentation, or immoral behavior that will harm, damage, or endanger any person, property or myself or reflect negatively against me or hinder my academic continuance. I will strive to achieve excellence and to complete degree requirements without hesitation. I am a valuable part of the Jackson State University family, and proud of it.

Student Responsibility for Meeting Graduate Requirements

Each student should thoroughly study the **Graduate Catalog** and become completely familiar with the organization, policies, and regulations of the university. Failure to do this may result in serious mistakes for which the student shall be held fully responsible. Only the general academic regulations and requirements governing graduate programs are presented in CyberOrientation. Specific requirements pertaining to individual programs are outlined within the departmental section of the catalog. It is the student’s responsibility to keep current on information that may affect their matriculation in graduate school. Whenever a problem occurs, students should contact their major advisor and/or the Graduate Dean’s office. Advisors endeavor to provide such assistance in a

timely and accurate manner, **but meeting requirements for graduation is the responsibility of the student.**

A graduate student may be classified as:

1. In Good Standing,
2. On Probation, or
3. Subject to Dismissal.

1. Good Standing. A graduate student is judged to be in good standing when making adequate progress toward completion of degree requirements, has a cumulative GPA of 3.00 and is not on probation or subject to dismissal.

2. Probation. Failure to complete the required hours and maintain the above grade point average will result in a one semester probationary period. Probation is intended to provide a student whose performance is less than fully satisfactory a period of time to bring his/her performance up to a level consistent with the minimum standards enforced by the Graduate School and/or the program in which enrolled.

A student may not remain in probationary status for longer than two semesters. When a student is placed on probation, he/she will be notified of the fact in writing and will have one semester to correct the deficiencies that led to this action. If, at the end of this period, all deficiencies have been removed, and no other circumstances warranting probation have developed in the interim, the student will be returned to good standing. If the deficiencies have not been corrected by the end of this period, the student may become subject to dismissal.

Probation may be initiated by the Graduate Dean or by the recommendation of the Graduate Advisor in the student's major department, school, college or graduate group. A student may be placed on probation for one or more of the following reasons:

- Failure to maintain an adequate level of performance (as measured by GPA) in courses central to the student's program of study.
- Failure on the departmental preliminary examinations or failure to stand for such exams in a timely manner.
- Failure to proceed to the comprehensive or qualifying exams within a reasonable period of time.
- Failure to make adequate progress in meeting other stated program requirements for example: submission of an acceptable dissertation prospectus, passage of required language examinations, etc.)
- Failure to make adequate progress in thesis or dissertation research or writing, or in the independent study project.

Students on probationary status may not be admitted to examinations (Master's Comprehensive or Doctoral Qualifying), nor advanced to Candidacy, nor hold an academic appointment, nor receive a graduate fellowship, nor defend a dissertation, thesis or project, nor be eligible to receive a graduate degree.

3. Unsatisfactory Work and Dismissal from a Department or Program.

A graduate student whose course work is unsatisfactory may be requested to leave the program. The recommendation for dismissal must be made in writing by the adviser, stating specific examples of unsatisfactory work, and must follow a conference held between the student and the adviser. Academic school procedures for dismissal including notification of the Dean of the Graduate School must be followed.

Reinstatement

A former student must submit an Application for Readmission. Official transcripts from all institutions attended since a student was last enrolled at Jackson State University must be mailed to the Office of Graduate Admissions. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted. Dismissed students who are approved for readmission will be readmitted on probation and must follow the requirements outlined and included with the student's letter from the Office of the Graduate School which must be received before the student is permitted to register.

STUDENTS ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The objective of the Grievance Procedure is to create and sustain an academic environment that permits students to freely express concerns or reveal complaints about their education and the educational process and to have their concerns and complaints addressed swiftly and forthrightly. Students enrolled at Jackson State University may register a concern or complaint about any academic regulation, the instructional program, delivery of the program, grades received, the academic advisement system, or any other matter related to academic affairs, without any adverse action for expressing the concern or filing the complaint. Concerns and complaints will be received, explored or investigated, and responded to in a fair and timely fashion, though students should understand that the final response by the University may not always be the response that they prefer.

Procedures

Classroom Concerns or Complaints (e.g., grades received; improper dismissals; unprofessional behavior):

- Student discusses concern or complaint with the instructor.
- Instructor provides a response (allowing up to five days if investigation is required)
- Complaints unresolved by the instructor or for which the response is unacceptable must be described in writing by the student and submitted to the department chair.
- The chair properly logs and investigates the matter and provides a written response to the student within ten days.
- Issues that are still unresolved must be submitted by the student to the college dean.
- The dean provides the final written response within ten days, which may be done with committee input and/or in consultation with higher-level administrators.

Other Academic Concerns or Complaints (e.g., academic advisement or academic regulations):

- Student discusses the concern or complaint with the academic advisor.
- The advisor provides a response (allow up to five days if an investigation is needed), or refers it to the appropriate official/body, e.g., department chair or Academic Standards Committee, for response within 20 days. The appropriate official/body returns the response to the advisor and the advisor returns it to the student.
- Unresolved concerns or complaints must be submitted in writing by the student to the college dean.
- The college dean provides a written response within ten days, which may be done with committee input and/or in consultation with the Vice President and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- If the complaint remains, the student will submit it to the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs for a final response.

NOTE: Academic complaints dating back more than a semester generally will not be investigated.

The Grading System

The student's proficiency in the work of graduate courses is rated in terms of letter grades. One semester of graduate credit represents one hour per week of class contact time for sixteen weeks. Grade point average (GPA) is determined on a 4.0 scale. The following are letters used to designate a student's standing in a course.

A- Excellent	4 quality points per credit
B-Good	3 quality points per credit
C-Fair	2 quality points per credit
D-Poor	1 quality point per credit
F-Failure	0 quality point per credit
IP-In progress	0 quality points
I-Incomplete	0 quality points

No more than two "C" grades are allowed. A GPA of 3.00 must be maintained both overall and in the student's major area of concentration at the Master's level. Doctoral students should consult the department chair and academic college dean for specific requirements. Grades of "D", "F", "W" (withdrawn), and "I" (incomplete) do not count towards satisfactory academic progress; however, they are counted as attempted hours.

Use of the IP Grade - The "IP" grade is to be assigned for project, thesis, dissertation courses or independent study. The grade(s) for these courses should be assigned upon the successful defense of the project, thesis or dissertation or completion of the independent study.

Repeating Courses

Students in graduate degree programs are permitted to repeat two (2) courses upon the recommendation of the departmental graduate advisor. Only two repeats are allowed in a graduate program. Both grades will show on the transcript, and the highest grade will be used in computing the grade point average (GPA).

Incompletes

When circumstances beyond a student's control prevent the completion of a course satisfactorily, the student has two options. One is to withdraw, if the 'drop' deadline has passed. The other is to request a grade of incomplete, "I", which allows a time extension. Such a request must be made before the semester ends and before the final exam, and the granting of this privilege is entirely at the professor's discretion.

If the student is in residence, the deficiency must be made up and the grade changed by the instructor within the first six weeks of the following semester. If the student is not in residence, the deficiency must be made up within one calendar year for the date the "I" was given.

The professor is required to indicate on the grade sheet the grade the student should receive if the incomplete is not removed within the prescribed time period. If the student fails to complete the course within the specific time, the grade so indicated will be recorded as the grade of record. When enrolled for thesis, research, or independent study, the "I/P" grade may be applied. No more than two "I's" are allowed at any time unless otherwise granted by the Graduate Dean.

Graduate Academic Second Chance Policy Statement

Graduate students, previously enrolled at the university, may be eligible for matriculation under the Graduate Academic Second Chance Policy.

The Academic Second Chance option must be requested during the re-admission process and students are required to meet all degree

requirements for re-admission. This option may be approved as a one-time opportunity for re-entering graduate school. No student is entitled to readmission under this policy and the University reserves the right to exercise its discretion to deny readmission for academic or non-academic reasons, including financial, conduct-related, probability of success, or other legally permissible reason.

Requirements

1. Student must have been separated from the University for at least three years.
2. All academic credit hours and grades earned during previous enrollment at Jackson State will remain on the student's academic history transcript.
 - a. Previously earned academic credit hours with grades of "B" and above, within time limits, may be used to meet degree requirements if approved by the department chair.
 - b. Previously earned academic credit hours with grades of less than "B" will not be used in the computation of the student's grade point average.
 - c. Graduate English Competency Examination requirements must be completed, if applicable
3. Student must meet all new departmental requirements for the existing program.

Student Responsibilities

1. Complete the Graduate Academic Second Chance application obtained from Graduate Studies. Obtain an official notification of potential readmission from the academic department.
2. Develop and submit an academic enhancement plan in consultation with an academic advisor. Obtain approval of the academic enhancement plan from the department chair in major area and the college dean.
3. Submit a completed application and an approved academic enhancement plan, with appropriate signatures from advisor, chairperson and college dean Graduate Studies.

*Approved by the Graduate Council
October 13, 2009*

Course Loads

The minimum course load for a full-time graduate student is nine (9) semester hours and the maximum is thirteen (13) semester hours. The Master of Social Work degree is an exception, requiring fifteen (15) semester hours.

Concurrent External Credit

Students enrolled at Jackson State University who wish to receive credit for courses taken at another institution must obtain written permission from the major department and the Graduate Dean PRIOR to enrolling in external courses. Students are advised to check if these courses will apply towards degree requirements. Approved external transfer credit will be processed upon completion of the course.

Concurrent or Second Master's Degrees

Students are not prohibited from earning two degrees; however, giving credit for one course in two degree programs is permitted only in programs under the College of Education and Human Development. It is considered preferable for an ambitious student to progress from one degree to a higher degree. In this case the earlier degree serves as a prerequisite or is automatically credited as part of the later degree.

Graduate courses which have been taken by undergraduate seniors and which have been applied toward the baccalaureate degree may not be used for filling requirements of a graduate degree.

Time Limits

All master's and specialist students must complete their programs within eight years of starting coursework at Jackson State or elsewhere. Doctoral students must complete all degree requirements within ten years from the time of admission into a program. Specific programs may have different time limits.

Residency

For Master's and Specialist students the residency is one semester; for doctoral students it is one year.

Academic Honesty

All students at Jackson State University are expected to conduct their academic studies in an honest and responsible manner. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in academic work shall be subject to disciplinary actions as defined in the Student Handbook.

Cheating includes:

- Submitting material that is not yours as part of your course performance, such as copying from another student's exam, allowing a student to copy from your exam;
- Using information or devices that are not allowed by the faculty; such as using formulas or data from a home computer program, or using unauthorized materials for a take-home exam;
- Obtaining and using unauthorized material, such as a copy of an examination before it is given;
- Fabricating information, such as the data for a lab report;
- Violating procedures prescribed to protect the integrity of an assignment, test, or other evaluation;
- Collaborating with others on assignments without the faculty's consent;
- Cooperating with or helping another student to cheat;
- Participating in or performing other forms of dishonest behavior, such as having another person take an examination in your place; or altering exam answers and requesting the exam be re-graded, or communicating with any person during an exam, other than the proctor or faculty.

Plagiarism includes:

- Directly quoting the words of others without using quotation marks or indented format to identify them;
- Using sources of information (published or unpublished) without identifying them;
- Paraphrasing material or ideas of others without identifying the sources;
- Dissertations, theses, projects, proposals or other research papers that are not the work of the student submitting them;
- When direct quotations are used, they must be indicated and when the ideas of another are incorporated in papers they must be appropriately acknowledged;
- When a student is unsure about something that he/she wants to do or the proper use of materials, a faculty member should be consulted for clarification.

Unauthorized/ Illegal Web Use

Jackson State University allows and encourages the use of University owned computer resources. This use is a granted privilege, not a right. Student use must be in accordance with all applicable laws, policies, and standards regarding acceptable use. Areas of concern include but are not limited to:

- Discriminating or libelous statements.
- Copyright infringements ("illegal downloading").
- Obscene, offensive or threatening materials.

- Usage primarily for financial gain or compensation not related to JSU's mission.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in charges being brought within the University's judicial system and in the civil or criminal court system.

Withdrawal from the University

Formal withdrawal from the University is processed through the Office of the Vice President for Student Life. No withdrawal from the University is official until the student has processed the appropriate forms. The effective date of withdrawal is the date the formal application is filed in the Office of the Vice President for Student Life. A student who leaves the University without filing a statement of formal withdrawal is given the grade that the record warrants in all courses in which he/she is enrolled. A student may withdraw from a course within the first 25 days following registration. Grades will be recorded in accordance with the schedule listed in this section. Registration dates are printed in the Official Course Schedule Booklet, also available online.

Neglecting attendance in classes or merely giving notice to instructors will not be considered as official notice of withdrawal. An unofficial withdrawal may result in failure in the course. Class changes that place a student below full-time status will unfavorably affect veteran subsistence, financial aid, and eligibility for other academic recognition.

Continuous Enrollment

Minimum registration for a graduate student to meet the continuous enrollment requirement is **one (1)** graduate credit a term. It is the student's responsibility to register for the appropriate number of credits **each semester** to meet departmental requirements.

Leaves of Absence

Under special circumstances such as illness, family hardship or military service a student who is a degree candidate may be given a leave of absence. In order to be considered for a leave of absence the student must **NOT**:

- Have registered for any course.
- Have been previously registered for thesis or dissertation credits.
- Have an "I" on his/her record.
- Be scheduled to take any examination (such as language, comprehensive, etc.)

Leaves of absence will be granted for one semester, or longer, as circumstances warrant. No leave is granted for more than one calendar year. To obtain a leave of absence:

1. The student writes a letter outlining in detail the reasons for requesting a leave. This letter should be addressed to the Chairperson of the student's major department.
2. The Chairperson will determine the appropriateness of giving the leave, adding his/her recommendation to the letter and forward it to the Graduate Dean.
3. After action by the Dean, the Division of Graduate Studies will notify the student, the department, and the Registrar (the latter only if the leave is granted) of the decision.

Advising of Students

Each graduate student pursuing a degree is assigned an advisor or mentor within the area in which the student is concentrating. The department chair in consultation with the student will appoint this adviser. If the student in a degree program chooses to write a thesis or a project, a committee of at least three (3) graduate faculty members will be appointed to help direct the thesis. Students writing

a dissertation, will be guided by a committee, chaired by the major advisor.

Enrollment of Seniors in Graduate Courses

An undergraduate graduating senior who has an overall 3.00 or better grade point average and who lacks no more than nine semester credit hours for the completion of the baccalaureate degree may, with the approval of the Dean of the Graduate School, register for a maximum of six (6) semester credit hours on the graduate level during the final undergraduate semester. No student may receive graduate credit for any course taken when he has not formally applied for, and received, admission to the Division of Graduate Studies.

Courses Carrying Undergraduate and Graduate Credits

A maximum of twelve (12) hours of courses carrying undergraduate and graduate credits may be accepted as graduate credit under the following conditions:

1. Such courses may be listed in the Bulletin as offering both undergraduate and graduate credit
2. A minimum grade of "B" must be received in each course presented for graduate credit,
3. These courses must not also be used to fulfill undergraduate requirements;
4. The student must be enrolled in a graduate program when such courses are taken; and
5. Additional course requirements must be included for graduate students.
6. Graduate courses which have been taken by undergraduate seniors and which have been applied toward the baccalaureate degree may not be used for filling requirements of a graduate degree.

IACUC Approval of Research

The Jackson State University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) in accordance with federal, state and institutional policies oversees the university's animal programs, facilities and procedures involving the appropriate care, use and humane treatments of animals being used for research, testing and education. All animal users at JSU must abide by the regulatory requirements pertaining to the acquisition and use of animals for research, testing or teaching as outlined in the USDA Animal Welfare Act, NIH Requirements, and The Guide for the Care and Use of Animals. Contact the IACUC Office if you have any questions regarding protocol application submission and approval at (601) 979-2589. Students must have IACUC approval when they form their committee. IRB approval is valid for 12 months.

IRB Approval of Research

All student and faculty research involving human subjects MUST be approved by the University's Institutional Review Board (IRB) prior to the conduct of the research. Regardless of the type of research being conducted (e.g.) human subjects, secondary data sources, animals or recombinant DNA research and bio hazards research, IRB, IACUC or IBC, approval must be received before conducting the research. A copy of the IRB application is available in the department, online at the JSU website and the Graduate Office. Contact the IRB Office if you have any questions regarding protocol application submission and approval at (601) 979-4197. Students must have IRB approval when they form their committee. IRB approval is valid for 12 months.

Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

The Jackson State University Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) has the charge of reviewing and approving recombinant DNA

research and biohazard projects. All recombinant DNA research at JSU, regardless of funding source, must be conducted in accordance with the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules and the use of infectious micro-organisms in research, teaching and the handling of infectious waste disposal. The Biosafety website serves as a helpful reference and guide to facilitate compliance with Biosafety related practices, institutional policies, and governmental regulations. For additional information pertaining to Biosafety at JSU contact Research Compliance for additional information at (601) 979-2859.

CANDIDACY AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

**Students should consult with department chairs or academic dean for specific departmental, school and college requirements.*

Master's Degree

ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY

When approximately 12-15 semester hours have been completed the student should make application for advancement to candidacy. Please note that students cannot be advanced to candidacy until:

1. All admission requirements have been met.
2. Notification of the program option the student is electing, or that is required.
3. All incompletes ("I" grades) have been removed.
4. The Graduate English Competency Examination was passed, or in the event of failure, passed ENG 500 with a grade of B or better.
5. Earned a 3.00 cumulative G. P. A.
6. Filed the Application for Graduate Degree Candidacy with the approval of the Candidacy Committee in his major department.

EXAMINATIONS

Each graduate student who intends to earn a master's degree at Jackson State University must successfully pass qualifying, comprehensive or final examinations or a combination of these. The content and methods of conducting these examinations are the responsibility of the college, school or department.

GRADUATE ENGLISH COMPETENCY EXAMINATION, (GECE)

This test is taken prior to registration or during the first term when the student begins work beyond the undergraduate level at Jackson State University. It is designed to show the strengths and weaknesses of each student in the areas of grammar and usage, logic, organization and content. Students unsuccessful on the English Examination must pass English 500-Advanced Laboratory Writing. The examination can be taken only once. It is expected that students who must take English 500 will do so no later than their second semester of enrollment. A final grade of "B" or higher is considered passing in English 500. ENG 500 does not earn credit in graduate degree programs. Information on specific dates can be obtained from Graduate Studies, the Graduate website and academic departments.

Exemptions

1. Students in selected degree programs may meet this requirement by obtaining appropriate scores on the following examinations: GRE, GMAT and PRAXIS.
2. JSU undergraduate students may meet this requirement by entering Graduate Studies **immediately** after graduation.

Please contact your department chair or graduate program advisor for eligibility. Graduate Studies must receive notification of students meeting the requirement via exemptions.

GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATION, (GRE)

Candidates for degrees at Jackson State University may be required to take the Aptitude Test and may be required to take the Advanced Test in their field of specialization. Information with regard to dates and fees may be secured from the JSU Testing Center (www.jsu.edu/dta) or from the Educational Testing Service, 20 Nassau Street, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (www.ets.org). Students should consult with the department chair for specific departmental requirements.

GRADUATE AREA COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION, (GACE)

Each graduate student who intends to become a candidate for the master's degree at Jackson State University should take a written comprehensive examination in the student area of specialization after completing 24 semester hours of graduate credit with a cumulative average of "B" or better in courses completed.

No student may appear for the comprehensive examination until the Dean of Graduate Studies has declared him eligible for the examination. The student must be registered for at least one credit hour in the semester in which the examination will be taken. An audited course will not meet this requirement.

The Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination may be given three times a year, once in each semester. The Dean of Graduate Studies will set the date. A student may be permitted to take the Comprehensive Examination twice: if the student fails the second time, the student must petition the Academic College Dean or designee for permission to take the examination the third time. The student should register with the assigned adviser or department chair to take this examination in the last semester or summer session of course work.

If the student fails the written examination, the program has the option of administering an oral examination as an immediate second chance attempt to pass the examination. The oral examination must be administered in the same semester the written comprehensive examination is given. Results should be reported to the Division of Graduate Studies within 2 weeks of the examination.

FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION.

The Final Oral Examination is administered by a committee of at least three graduate faculty to students who write theses. This examination is based chiefly on the candidate's thesis and its relationship to the general field of education. No student is admitted to the oral examination unless he/ she has satisfied all previous requirements. This examination can be taken only after the thesis is in final form ready for final approval, and no earlier than the final term or semester of the candidate's program. Students who fail their oral examination may petition the Academic College Dean or designee for a second examination after an interval of six months has elapsed.

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS

Students should consult with department chair or academic college dean or designee.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum requirements for all master's degree students are listed below:

1. Notification of the program option the student is electing, or that is required (thesis, project or extra hours).
2. Completion of the required semester hours of coursework with a "B" average (3.00 GPA).
3. Completion of all departmental requirements.
4. Completion of the Graduation clearance process.

Program Options

Degree programs vary in requiring a thesis, project, or additional coursework. It is the responsibility of the student to be knowledgeable of all departmental requirements. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their departmental graduate adviser.

Thesis - (6 hours) The candidate electing to write a thesis will select a problem area of interest within his major field. The thesis will be directed by the student's major adviser, with the approval of the student's thesis committee. There is a two (2) year limit on completing the thesis, calculated from the date the student passed the Graduate Comprehensive Examination. From the time the Graduate Comprehensive Examination is taken a student is required to be in continuous enrollment until the degree is earned within the two-year limitation.

Project— (3 hours) The term "Project" is broadly conceived: it may be an experiment, a review of research, an analysis and evaluation of some psychological, educational or vocational problem related to the student's work or some other type of independent study. The specific nature, procedure and requirements of the project are to be arranged by the candidate and his adviser with the approval of appropriate departmental faculty members or chairs. A minimum of 33 semester hours is required for this option. The results of the Project are to be reported in written form according to an acceptable stylistic format.

Additional Coursework—The student, in consultation with his/her adviser will select at least two additional courses to extend, expand or supplement his area of specialization.

Specialist in Education

The Specialist in Education Degree is offered in some of the teaching fields in which Master's degrees are offered

ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY

When approximately 12-15 semester hours have been completed the student should make application for advancement to candidacy. Please note that students cannot be advanced to candidacy until:

1. Supervisory committee is formed and proposal is approved.
2. G. P. A. earned is a 3.00 cumulative
3. All incompletes ("I" grades) have been removed.
4. All departmental requirements are completed.
5. Application for Graduate Degree Candidacy is filed with Graduate Studies.

Program Options

It is the responsibility of the student to be knowledgeable of all departmental requirements.

Thesis

All candidates submitting a thesis must defend it in a formal, public forum. The specific nature, procedure and requirements of the thesis are to be arranged by the candidate and his adviser with the approval of appropriate departmental faculty members or chairs. Policies and standards for establishing a committee and for preparation and submission are outlined in documents from the Graduate Studies office and individual departments. Continuous enrollment is required and all procedures must be followed.

EXAMINATIONS

Each graduate student who intends to earn a specialist degree at Jackson State University must successfully pass qualifying, comprehensive or final examinations or a combination of these. The content and methods of conducting these examinations are the responsibility of the college, school or department.

GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATION, (GRE) and MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT).

Candidates for degrees at Jackson State University may be required to take the Aptitude Test and may be required to take the Advanced Test in their field of specialization. Information with regard to dates and fees may be secured from the JSU Testing Center (www.jsu.edu/dta) or by writing to Educational Testing Service, 20 Nassau Street, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (www.ets.org). Students should consult with department chair for specific departmental requirements.

GRADUATE AREA COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION, (GACE).

Each graduate student who intends to become a candidate for the specialist degree at Jackson State University should take a written comprehensive examination in the student's area of specialization after completing all graduate program requirements with a cumulative average of "B" (3.00 GPA) or better in courses completed.

No student may appear for the comprehensive examination until after he/she has been declared eligible for the examination by the Dean of Graduate Studies. The student must be registered for at least one credit hour in the semester in which the examination will be taken. An audited course will not meet this requirement.

The Graduate Comprehensive Examination may be given three times a year, once in each semester. The date will be set by the Dean of Graduate Studies. A student may be permitted to take the Comprehensive Examination twice: if the student fails the second time, the student must petition the Academic College Dean or designee for permission to take the examination a third time. The student should register with the assigned adviser or department chair to take this examination in the last semester or summer session of course work.

If the student fails the written examination, the program has the option of administering an oral examination as an immediate second chance attempt to pass the examination. The oral examination must be administered in the same semester the written comprehensive examination is given. Results should be reported to the Division of Graduate Studies within 2 weeks of the examination.

FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION.

The Final Oral Examination is administered by a committee of at least three graduate faculty to students who write theses or projects. This examination is based chiefly on the candidate's research and its relationship to the general field of education. No student is admitted to the oral examination unless he/she has satisfied all previous requirements. This examination can be taken only after the thesis is in final form ready for final approval, and no earlier than the final term or semester of the candidate's program. Students who fail their oral examination may petition the Academic College Dean or designee for a second examination after an interval of six months has elapsed.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

These are the basic requirements for the specialist degree:

1. Completion of the required course work with the required departmental cumulative GPA.
2. Comprehensive Examination, if required.
3. Defense of thesis or project.
4. Completion of graduation clearance process.

Doctoral Degree

ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY

When eligibility has been established according to program requirements, the student should make application for advancement to candidacy. A student is eligible for candidacy when he has:

1. Achieved regular status
2. Earned a cumulative 3.00 GPA and the required departmental cumulative GPA.
3. All incompletes ("I" grades) have been removed.
4. Completion of all departmental requirements.
5. Filed the Application for Graduate Degree Candidacy with the approval of the Candidacy Committee in the major department.

Dissertations

All candidates must submit a dissertation based on independent and original research and must defend it in a formal, public forum. Policies and standards for establishing a dissertation committee, preparing and submitting the dissertation are outlined in "Guidelines for Preparing the Doctoral Dissertation" (available at www.jsu.edu/graduateschool) and are supplemented by documents from the Graduate School and individual departments. All procedures must be followed.

Doctoral Examinations

Every student must pass a group of comprehensive examinations (oral, written, or both) that covers the primary areas of the student's program. After passing these examinations, the student may advance to candidacy.

EXAMINATIONS

Each graduate student who intends to earn a doctoral degree at Jackson State University must successfully pass qualifying, comprehensive or final examinations and/or a combination of these. The content and methods of conducting these examinations are the responsibility of the college, school, or department.

GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATION, (GRE) and MILLER ANALOGIES TEST (MAT).

Candidates for degrees at Jackson State University may be required to take the Aptitude Test and may be required to take the Advanced Test in their field of specialization. Information with regard to dates and fees may be secured from the JSU Testing Center (www.jsu.edu/dta) or from the Educational Testing Service, 20 Nassau Street, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 (www.ets.org). Students should consult with the department chair for specific departmental requirements.

GRADUATE AREA COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION, (GACE).

Each graduate student who intends to become a candidate for the doctoral degree at Jackson State University should take a written comprehensive examination in the student area of specialization after completing 80% of the graduate program with a cumulative average of "B" or better in courses completed.

No student may appear for the comprehensive examination until after he/she has been declared eligible for the examination by the Dean of Graduate Studies. The student must be registered for at least one credit hour in the semester in which the examination will be taken. An audited course will not meet this requirement.

The Graduate Comprehensive Examination may be given three times a year, once in each semester. The date will be set by the Dean of the Graduate School. A student may be permitted to take the Comprehensive Examination twice: if the student fails the second time, the student must petition the Academic School Dean or designee for permission to take the examination the third time. The student should register with the assigned adviser or department chair to take this examination in the last semester or summer session of course work.

If the student fails the written examination, the program has the option of administering an oral examination as an immediate second chance attempt to pass the examination. The oral examination must be administered in the same semester the written comprehensive examination is given. Results should be reported to the Division of Graduate Studies within 2 weeks of the examination.

FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION.

The Final Oral Examination is administered by a committee of graduate faculty to students who write dissertations. This examination is based chiefly on the candidate's dissertation and its relationship to the general field of education. No student is admitted to the oral examination unless he/ she has satisfied all previous requirements. This examination can be taken only after the thesis is in final form ready for final approval, and no earlier than the final term or semester of the candidate's program. Students who fail their oral examination may petition the Academic College Dean or designee for a second examination after an interval of six months has elapsed.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

These are the basic requirements for the doctoral degree:

1. A minimum of 60 semester hours of course work with the required departmental cumulative grade point average.
2. Internship if required.
3. Comprehensive Examination
4. Defense of Dissertation
5. Completion of the graduation clearance process.

Chronological Summary of Steps Leading to the Doctoral Degree

1. Admission and Continuous Enrollment
2. Completion of coursework with the required GPA
3. Meet residency requirement
4. Internship (if required by program)
5. Comprehensive Examinations
6. Appointment of dissertation committee
7. Register, complete and defend dissertation
8. Apply for graduation
9. Dissertation publication, arranged through the Division of Library and Information Resources.
10. Granting of degree. Diploma issued by the Registrar.

Required Forms for Matriculation

The University/Graduate Studies uses several forms to assist in the advising process for graduate degree candidates. These forms may be obtained from departmental advisers or at www.jsums.edu/graduateschool/graduate-forms/. The forms, when properly executed, provide general directions for matriculation at the University. Each form must be completed under the direction of the student's adviser.

Degree Plan (Degree Audit). It contains principal program requirements, thereby serving as a checklist for the candidate. Submission to the Graduate school is not required.

Application for Graduate Degree Candidacy. (Required) Complete this form after earning 12 semester hours (Master's and Specialist Degree) and the GECE requirement (Master) or 80% of required coursework (Doctoral) and only when all admission and departmental requirements have been met. The student also forms the committee for the dissertation, thesis or project at this time.

Committee Report of Defense Results. The "Committee Report of Defense Results" is completed upon the successful defense of the dissertation, thesis, or project before the student's committee. This form must be submitted prior to final "Clearance for Graduation".

Online Graduation Clearance. This process is to be completed by the published deadline and prior to Commencement. See <http://www.jsums.edu>, or access "Online Graduation Clearance" in the PAWS system.

Specific Degree Requirements

The specific requirements (admission, candidacy and graduate) for each degree are listed in the appropriate section of the catalog for the program, department, or school. The student should consult the major department or academic school for additional requirements.

GENERAL STATEMENTS

GENERAL PHILOSOPHY ON ACADEMIC RECORDS

Jackson State University maintains a permanent academic record for each student enrolled. The Permanent Academic Record contains those grades received from course work completed at Jackson State University along with any transfer of courses and credits from any other accredited institution of higher learning that is used by JSU to fulfill the degree requirements. All records are confidential. Academic records are considered property of the University. Opportunities are provided for students to inspect and to control the release of information contained in their records in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. The purpose of FERPA is to afford certain rights to students concerning their education records. The primary rights afforded are the right to inspect and review the education records, the right to seek to have the records amended, and the right to have some control over the disclosure of information from those records. The Act applies to all education records maintained by JSU that are directly related to a student. Records containing a student's name, social security number or other personally identifiable information are covered by FERPA.

The Retention and Disposal of Student Records: The Office of the Registrar and Records currently maintains academic records for students previously and currently enrolled. Academic records are stored on the mainframe computer located in the Office of Information Management with systems backup conducted nightly. Academic records that are not retrievable through computer access are stored on microfilm as well as a CD-ROM document imaging system located in the Registrar's Office. An additional copy of the microfilm, and CD-ROM disks are maintained at an off-site location, with duplicate copies of microfiche being stored in a steel vault located in the Office of Information Management. Once the information contained in the academic record has been electronically reproduced, the hardcopy document may be destroyed. However, the contents of those records can be reproduced at such time that the student requests personal examination or disclosure of the academic record be forwarded to another institution of higher learning, a potential or present employer, or any person or persons so designated

by the student. The student must make a written request to have the academic record released. The academic record is generated and printed on transcript security paper that prevents duplicating or printing an official copy outside the Office of the Registrar and Records.

To file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA should be done with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605.

TRANSCRIPTS

Transcript requests are made in writing and directed to the Office of the Registrar and Records. Transcripts may also be requested online at www.jsums.edu. The transcript is a student's complete and permanent academic record. It shows all undergraduate and/or graduate work completed, results, and degrees awarded at JSU. In addition, a summary of transfer credit is listed and detailed course work may be included. After the last enrollment period, transcript totals are shown. The Office of the Registrar and Records will not release transcripts received from other schools and colleges.

The current cost for each transcript is \$7.50. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Jackson State University. Transcripts can only be released for students having no outstanding financial obligations to the University. Transcripts are also held if the student has incomplete admissions files. Fees are not refunded under any circumstance.

Name and Address Change

A student who has had a change in name after his/her last registration must provide the University with the appropriate documentation that substantiates the legal name change. This must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar and Records prior to the student's next registration. Registration under a name different from that used in the student's last enrollment cannot be accomplished without appropriate documentation, which becomes a part of the student's permanent file. All grade reports and transcripts are issued under the student's legal name as recorded in the Office of the Registrar and Records.

A student who has had a change of address after his/her last registration must provide the University the new address by completing the appropriate form. This form may be secured from the Office of the Registrar and Records. All transcripts will be mailed to the location of the new address.

Student Participation in Institutional Governance

As constituents of the university community, students are free, individually and collectively, to express their own position on institutional policies and on matters of general interest and on matters of general interest to the student body. The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is the primary forum for graduate student representation and provides a channel for communication among graduate students at Jackson State University. The organization serves as a vehicle for students to participate in the formulation of university policies directly affecting them. Students also may participate in the decision-making process through active membership on *ad hoc* and standing committees as specified in the University's policies on committee structure.

Contact the Graduate Studies office for membership information or additional information on the Graduate Student Association, by phone, (601) 979-4322, or by e-mail, gadmapp1@jsums.edu.

Veterans and Military Center

The Veteran Affairs Office (VA) assists students who are veterans and dependents of veterans who are eligible for benefits through the Veterans Administration. The office is located on the first floor of the Jacob Reddix Building and was established to act as a liaison between the eligible students and the various Jackson State University offices to help resolve entitlement problems. It can be reached at (601) 979-0889/1365. Office hours are: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m, Monday - Friday (www.jsums.edu/studentlife/veteran-student-services-program/).

The mailing address is:
Coordinator of Veterans Affairs
P.O. Box 17125
Jackson State University
Jackson, MS 39217

Office of Disability Services & ADA Compliance

The Department of Disability Services & ADA Compliance is committed to coordinating reasonable services and accommodations to JSU students and staff as well as other external constituents with disabilities. Special emphasis is given to accessibility and inclusion when meeting the needs of all of our students, employees and visitors. Any student, employee, or campus visitor who has been diagnosed with a disability is eligible for accommodations at JSU. The student, employee, or visitor must make the University aware of his/her disability by presenting documentation applicably showing the disability and need for academic adjustment, auxiliary aids, accommodations, and services. For additional information, please contact the Department of Disability Services & ADA Compliance at (601) 979-3704. The Office is located on the second floor, Office 2110, of the Student Center.

Identification Cards (I.D.)

It is the policy of Jackson State University that all students, faculty, and staff must obtain and carry an official JSU identification card (I.D.). The identification card provides students, faculty, and staff access to dining facilities, athletic events, residence halls, and the library. Cardholders who participate in the declining balance program for students and inclining payroll deductible program for faculty and staff may make purchases in Student Dining, the Convenience Store, the Deli, Subway, Cash Dining, Bookstore, Health Center, Laundry rooms, Publications, and Vending machines. The identification card is the property of Jackson State University; it is intended for current JSU students, faculty, staff and guests only and must be returned upon request. This card is non-transferable. No fee will be charged for the original issuance of an I.D. Card. However, replacement of a lost, stolen or damaged card is the cardholder's responsibility. The cardholder is also responsible for safeguarding his/her I.D. card. The I.D. Center is located in the Laundry Facilities Building directly behind Jacob L. Reddix Hall. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.- Monday-Friday.

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS/CAMPUSES

Jackson State University acknowledges and adheres to the laws of the state of Mississippi. The University also complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989. In compliance with federal and state laws, at Jackson State University the following will apply:

Drugs

- A. The possession of any drug controlled by federal or state laws on or off campus is prohibited.
- B. In compliance with state and federal law, it is illegal to possess, consume, use, or distribute (or intend to distribute or use) any drug controlled by federal or state laws on the campus of Jackson State University or at event sponsored or supervised by the University.
- C. The manufacture, intent to manufacture, or intent to furnish drugs controlled by federal or state law is prohibited.
- D. The sale, intent to sell, purchase, and intent to purchase, deliver, and intent to deliver drugs controlled by federal or state law is prohibited.
- E. Possession or use of any drug related paraphernalia is also prohibited. The University reserves the right to initiate judicial action if drug violations occur on or off-campus. Students found to be in violation of the drug policy will be subject to disciplinary action, which may result in suspension or expulsion.

FAILURE TO COMPLY

- A. Failure to respond or properly identify oneself pursuant to a request by properly identified officials of the University while in the performance of their duties.
- B. Failure to report to the office of a University official for a conference, meeting, or appointment by the official.
- C. Failure to appear as a witness in a disciplinary case when properly notified.
- D. Failure to comply with any disciplinary condition imposed on a person by any judicial body or administrator.

Participation in such acts is subject to University disciplinary action.

HARASSMENT

- A. No person shall engage in any act of intimidation or harassment, physical force or violence that is directed against any person or group of persons because of their ethnicity, race, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or preference, disability or political beliefs.
- B. No person shall use the telephone or electronic mail to harass another.

Participation in such acts is subject to University disciplinary action and punishable by law.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

No person shall engage in unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and/or other physical conduct, and expressive behavior of a sexual nature where submission to such conduct is made explicitly, or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment or education; or where submission to, or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for academic or employment decisions affecting that individual.

Instances where such conduct has the purpose of substantially interfering with an individual's academic or professional performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or demeaning employment or educational environment is strictly prohibited.

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Jackson State University applies the definitions and conditions as required by the State of Mississippi in the classification of students as residents or non-residents for the assessment of fees. Initial residency classification of an applicant for admission is determined at the time of admission. The University holds the student responsible for knowing and registering under their correct

residential status. A student who willfully registers their status incorrectly will be subject to disciplinary action or dismissal and required to pay the fees they would have otherwise been required to pay. The following classifications will apply:

A MINOR- The residence of a person less than 21 years of age is that of the father. After the death of the father, the residence of the minor is that of the mother. If the parents are divorced, the residence of the minor is that of the parent who was granted custody by the court; or, if custody was not granted, the residence continues to be that of the father. If both parents are dead, the residence of the minor is that of the last surviving parent at the time of that parent's death, unless the minor lives with a legal guardian of their person duly appointed by a proper court of Mississippi, in which case his/her residence becomes that of the guardian.

AN ADULT- The residence of an adult is that place where they are domiciled, that is, the place where they physically reside with the intention of remaining indefinitely or of returning permanently when temporarily absent.

REMOVAL OF PARENTS FROM MISSISSIPPI- If the parents of a minor who is enrolled as a student in an institution of higher learning move their legal residence from the State of Mississippi, the minor is immediately classified as a nonresident student.

TWELVE MONTHS OF RESIDENCE REQUIRED- No student may be admitted to the University as a resident of Mississippi unless their residence, as defined here in above, has been the State of Mississippi for a continuous period of at least 12 months immediately preceding their admission.

RESIDENCY PETITIONS- Nonresidents may petition the institution for a change of residency classification. A person who enters the State of Mississippi from another state and enters a system institution is considered a nonresident. Provided, however, that any person who has attained 21 years of age and has thereafter established residency and resided within the State of Mississippi for 12 consecutive months after attaining 21 years of age upon sworn affidavit and other representation, may petition the particular institution for a change of residency classification for the purposes of fees and tuition assessment. The institution may make reasonable inquiry into the validity of the petitioner's claim. Such petition of change of residency must be made on or before the last day a student may register at a particular institution without penalty.

RESIDENCE STATUS OF A MARRIED STUDENT- A married student may claim the residence of the spouse, or may claim independent resident status under the same regulation, set forth above, as any other adult.

CHILDREN OF PARENTS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY THE UNIVERSITY- Children of parents who are members of the faculty or staff may be classified as residents without regard to the residence requirement of 12 months.

MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED ON ACTIVE DUTY STATIONED IN MISSISSIPPI- Members of the U. S. armed forces on extended active duty and stationed within the State of Mississippi may be classified as residents, without regard to the residence requirement of 12 months, for the purpose of attendance at the University. Residence status of such military personnel who are not legal residents of Mississippi (as defined in Section 37-103-12 of House Bill 409, passed during the 1988 Session of the Mississippi Legislature) shall terminate upon their reassignment for duty in the continental United States outside Mississippi.

CHILDREN OF MILITARY PERSONNEL- Residence status of children of members of the armed forces on extended active duty shall be that of the military parent for the purpose of attending the University during the time that their military parent are stationed within the State of Mississippi and shall be continued through the time that military parents are stationed in an overseas area with last duty assignment within the State of Mississippi. Residence status of minor children shall terminate upon reassignment under permanent change of station orders of their military parents for duty in the continental United States outside of the State of Mississippi excepting temporary training assignments en route from Mississippi.

CERTIFICATION OF RESIDENCE OF MILITARY PERSONNEL- A military person on active duty stationed in Mississippi who wishes to avail her/himself or their dependents of the provisions of the paragraph titled "MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED ON ACTIVE DUTY STATIONED IN MISSISSIPPI" must submit a certificate from the military organization showing the name of the military member, the name of the dependent, if for a dependent, the name of the organization of assignment and its address (may be in the letterhead), that the military member will be on active duty stationed in Mississippi on the date of registration in the University; that the military member is not on transfer orders; and the signature of the commanding officer, the adjutant, or the personnel officer of the unit of assignment with the signers' rank and title. A military certificate must be presented to the Registrar each semester within 10 days prior to registration for the provisions of the paragraph "MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED ON ACTIVE DUTY STATIONED IN MISSISSIPPI", to be effective.

FAMILIES OF STUDENT- The spouse and children of a nonresident student who pays or receives a waiver of the NONRESIDENT fee may enroll at the University upon payment of the appropriate fees charged to a resident. Nonresident fees for spouses and children of part-time resident students will be prorated.

ALIENS- All aliens are classified as non-residents except those aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States, and who reside in the State of Mississippi. An alien who petitions to be declared a resident of the State of Mississippi must prove that they have been accorded permanent residence by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service. The alien petitioner must also prove their intent to remain in the State of Mississippi.

History	M.A.
Mass Communications	M.S.
Mathematics	M.S., M.S.T.
Music Education	M.M.Ed.
Political Science	M.A.
Public Administration	Ph.D.
Public Health	Dr. P.H., M.P.H.
Public Policy and Administration	M.P.P.A.
Reading Education	M.S.Ed. Ed.S.
Rehabilitative Services	M.S.
Science Education	M.S.T.
Secondary Education	M.A.T, M.S.Ed., Ed.S.
Social Work	M.S.W., Ph. D.
Sociology	M.A.
Special Education	M.S.Ed., Ed.S.
Sport Science	M.S.
Teaching	M.A.T.
Technology Education	M.S.Ed.
Urban Higher Education	Ph.D.
Urban and Regional Planning	M.A, Ph.D.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN WHICH DEGREES ARE OFFERED

Program	Degree(s)
Accounting	M.P.A.
Biology	M.S.
Business Administration	M.B.A., Ph.D.
Chemistry	M.S., Ph.D.
Clinical Psychology	Ph.D.
Communicative Disorders	M.S.
Computational and Data-Enabled Science &Eng.	Ph.D.
Computer Science	M.S.
Criminology & Justice Services	M.A.
Early Childhood Education	M.S.Ed., Ed.D
Education	Ed.S.
Educational Administration	Ph.D.
Educational Administration and Supervision	M.S.,
Elementary Education	M.S.Ed.
Engineering	M.S., Ph.D.
English	M.A., M.A.T.
Environmental Science	M.S., Ph.D.
Guidance & Counseling	M.S.Ed, M.S.
Hazardous Materials Management	M.S.
Health, Physical Education and Recreation	M.S.Ed.