

Application Form for ABM Program in Computer Science



MIDDLE TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's Program in Computer Science

Applicant Name (printed)

MTSU ID Number

Cumulative GPA

First Semester at MTSU

Expected Graduation Date

No. of credit hours completed
(including courses taken in current semester)

As a student participating in an Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's (ABM) program at MTSU, I understand the following:

Retention and Graduation Requirements:

- Students must complete the bachelor's degree prior to entering the master's program.
- Students must receive a grade of B (3.0) or better in double-counted graduate courses. Courses with a grade below B (including B-) cannot be double-counted toward the graduate degree requirements.
- If a student completes his/her bachelor's degree requirement with a cumulative GPA of less than 3.25 on a 4.0 scale, he/she is no longer eligible to double-count the credit hours and is automatically terminated from the ABM program. When a student is dismissed from a program, the graduate program director must inform the student in writing with a copy of the letter delivered to the College of Graduate Studies.
- No more than 6 hours of graduate work may be counted toward the requirements of both degrees.
- Students who do not follow the approved program of study may become ineligible to continue in the ABM program.
- A student who is ineligible to participate in the ABM program cannot double-count any courses for both bachelor's and master's degrees.
- A student who withdraws from the ABM program cannot double-count any course for both bachelor's and master's degrees.

Effect on Financial Aid

Some financial aid or scholarships cover only courses required by the program. If a graduate course is to be counted as an elective, it must be listed on page 1 of the undergraduate upper division form as an upper division elective in the section marked Major Courses. Please contact MTSU's financial aid office for verification.

Withdrawal from ABM Program

A student in an ABM program may withdraw at any time by informing the undergraduate and graduate program directors in writing. A copy of the letter of withdrawal must be sent to the College of Graduate Studies. Once a student withdraws from an ABM program, he/she is ineligible to subsequently re-enter that ABM program.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Complete this form and return to Zhijiang Dong in KOM 304H or at zhijiang.dong@mtsu.edu

I AM *true*BLUE®

For more information, contact **Zhijiang Dong**
615-904-8428 | E-mail: zhijiang.dong@mtsu.edu | csc.mtsu.edu

0726-0251 / MTSU prohibits discrimination based on sex, race, color, national origin, or other protected categories. Report concerns to the Title VI/IX Coordinator. See the full policy at csc.mtsu.edu.

csc.mtsu.edu



COMPUTER SCIENCE

ABM Program Application Checklist

- ☐ **Step 1:** Make sure you meet the criteria for admission:
 - Have completed a minimum of 75 credit hours in your undergraduate program (including Advanced Placement credits)
 - Have at least two full-time semesters of undergraduate coursework remaining at the time of application
 - Have completed a minimum of two semesters as a full-time student at MTSU if you're a transfer student
 - Have a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or better on a 4.0 scale
- ☐ **Step 2:** Complete the Application Form on back and return to **Zhijiang Dong in Kirksey Old Main (KOM), Room 304H**, or at zhijiang.dong@mtsu.edu
- ☐ **Step 3:** Upon notification of acceptance, make an advising appointment with your undergraduate and graduate program advisors to map out your course of study and determine when you will complete your undergraduate degree.
 - Complete undergraduate upper division form listing graduate courses that will be double-counted with your undergraduate advisor.
 - Complete graduate program of study with your graduate program advisor.
- ☐ **Step 4:** Apply to **College of Graduate Studies**. When selecting your admission term, select the term **when you will formally enter your graduate program**. This should be the next term in which you plan to enroll **after** you complete your undergraduate degree.

Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's (ABM) Program in Computer Science

Accelerated Bachelor's-to-Master's (ABM) Program in Computer Science allows qualified undergraduate students to take up to **two** graduate level courses, which could be double-counted for both bachelor's and master's degrees. It is now possible to get your master's degree in computer science within three or even two semesters.

Graduate Degree in Computer Science

MTSU's Computer Science Department offers a comprehensive Master of Science (M.S.) degree. A student may pursue one of three concentrations: Software Development, Artificial Intelligence, or Cybersecurity Systems. Each concentration is available in both thesis and non-thesis formats. The thesis option allows students to conduct in-depth research in a specialized area of computer science and provides excellent preparation for doctoral study. The non-thesis option emphasizes advanced coursework and is designed for students seeking to broaden their professional knowledge and technical expertise.

All students, regardless of concentration or degree option, are required to complete CSCI 6620. In addition, each concentration includes 9 credit hours of core courses and 6 credit hours of concentration electives.



Thesis Option (minimum 30 hours):

The thesis option requires the completion of at least 30 hours of graduate coursework, including 3 credit hours of CSCI 6640. Students must successfully complete and orally defend a master's thesis. At least 21 credit hours must be earned in 6000- or 7000-level courses.

Non-Thesis Option (36 hours):

The non-thesis option requires the completion of 36 graduate credit hours. Students must successfully pass a comprehensive examination as the culminating requirement for the degree. CSCI 6640 (Thesis Research) may not be counted toward the required 36 credit hours. At least 24 credit hours must be earned in 6000- or 7000-level courses.