
Aurora University Regulations and Policy Catalog

2025–2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Aurora University Regulations and Policy Catalog	2	Tuition and Fees	15
General Information about Aurora University	2	Student Services	17
Overview	2	Academic Regulations and Procedures	19
Mission, Vision and Values	2	Undergraduate Degree Requirements	20
Governance	3	General Education	20
Approvals and Accreditations	3	Simultaneous Undergraduate Multiple Degrees and Multiple Majors	22
Aurora Campus	4	Additional Bachelors Degree	13
Undergraduate Programs of Study	4	Degree Distinctions	23
Graduate Programs of Study	5	Graduate Degree Requirements	23
General Education and Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Programs	5	Time Limit for Completion of Graduate Degrees	23
Assessment of Learning Outcomes in Graduate Programs	6	Code of Academic Integrity	23
Colleges and Schools	6	Classroom Conduct Policy	25
Special Study Opportunities	6	Course Enrollment and Classroom Environment Policy	25
Academic Calendar	7	Undergraduate Academic Standards	26
Credit Hour Policy	7	Graduate Academic Standards	26
Course Modalities	7	Application of Academic Regulations	26
Non-Discrimination	8	Registration	27
Equal Opportunity Employment	8	Petitions	29
Sexual Misconduct Policy (Title IX)	8	Special Educational Experiences and Credit	29
Catalog Statements and Terms of Issue	8	Attendance Policy	31
Waivers and Exceptions to Academic Regulations	9	Academic Leave of Absence	33
Admission	9	Medical Leave of Absence	33
Undergraduate Admission	9	Military Accommodation	36
Center for Graduate Studies	10	Withdrawal	37
AU Online	10	Transfer and Non-Traditional Sources of Credit	37
Graduate Admission	11	Declaration of Major	42
Cross-Listed Undergraduate/Graduate Courses	11	Regulations Governing Majors and Minors	42
International Students	11	Academic Measurement and Evaluation	42
Special Admission Status	12	Grades	42
Additional Bachelors Degree	13	Transcripts: Regulations Governing Issuance	46
Earning Multiple Graduate Degrees or Credentials	13	Undergraduate Student Classification and Definition	47
Veterans	13	Graduate Student Classification and Definition	47
Articulations	14	Graduation Policies and Procedures	47
Application for Admission	14	Awarding Posthumous Degrees	48
Term of Entry	14	Financial Aid Rights and Responsibilities	48
Undergraduate Transfer of Credit	14	Satisfactory Academic Progress Procedures	50
Non-Traditional Sources of Credit	14	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as Amended FERPA	52
Graduate Transfer of Credit	14	Directories	53
Financial Aid	15	Addendum	63
		Index	64

AURORA UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS AND POLICY CATALOG

- General Information about Aurora University (p. 2)
- Admission (p. 9)
- Student Services (p. 17)
- Academic Regulations and Procedures (p. 19)
- Directories (p. 53)
- Addendum (p. 63)

General Information about Aurora University

- Overview (p. 2)
- Mission, Vision and Values (p. 2)
- Governance (p. 3)
- Approvals and Accreditations (p. 3)
- Aurora Campus (p. 4)
- Undergraduate Programs of Study (p. 4)
- Graduate Programs of Study (p. 5)
- General Education and Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Programs (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/general-information/undergraduate-general-education/>)
- Assessment of Learning Outcomes in Graduate Programs (p. 6)
- Colleges and Schools (p. 6)
- Special Study Opportunities (p. 6)
- Academic Calendar (p. 7)
- Credit Hour Policy (p. 7)
- Course Modalities (p. 7)
- Non-Discrimination (p. 8)
- Equal Opportunity Employment (p. 8)
- Sexual Misconduct Policy (Title IX) (p. 8)
- Catalog Statements and Terms of Issue (p. 8)
- Waivers and Exceptions to Academic Regulations (p. 9)

Overview

History of Aurora University

Aurora University traces its origins to the 1893 founding of Mendota College in Illinois and the Western Secretarial Institute in Wisconsin, the two organizations that matured into Aurora College and George Williams College, respectively.

Mendota College was established initially as a seminary to prepare graduates for ministry, but it soon adopted a broader mission, moving in 1912 to a new campus in the nearby community of Aurora. With this change came a different name, Aurora College, and a growing enrollment. When World War II ended, the campus population swelled again as veterans enrolled in the college's innovative evening degree program. The 1970s and 1980s saw an expansion of curricular offerings in a number of professional fields and the awarding of advanced degrees in selected

disciplines. These changes culminated in the 1985 decision to rechristen the institution Aurora University.

In 1992, Aurora University affiliated with George Williams College, renowned for its emphasis on social work programs. The institutions merged in 2000, with the university serving students on the George Williams College campus in Wisconsin for nearly 30 years. The legacy of the college now lives on at Aurora University through the George Williams School of Social Work.

Today, Aurora University operates in Aurora, Illinois, and through AU Online (<https://online.aurora.edu/>). The university also offers select programs at the University Center at McHenry County College (<https://aurora.edu/about/university-center-mchenry-county-college/>) in Woodstock, Illinois.

Mission, Vision and Values

Mission

At Aurora University, our singular goal is to empower students to achieve lasting personal and professional success. We do this by being an inclusive community dedicated to the transformative power of learning. As a teaching-centered institution, we encourage undergraduate and graduate students to discover what it takes to build meaningful and purposeful lives.

Values

We are committed to student success through **collaboration**, working across departments and eliminating silos to help students realize their personal and professional aspirations.

We commit ourselves to **continuous learning** by adapting and growing along with our students. We are dedicated to helping students achieve their full potential through lifelong support that provides opportunities to learn and grow.

We define **inclusivity** broadly so that all members of our community are welcome and authentically belong, and we actively work to foster understanding and appreciation of diversity as an institutional strength.

We adhere to the highest standards of **integrity** in every aspect of institutional practice and operation. Through this proven dedication to honesty, fairness, and ethical conduct, we lead by example and inspire our students to do the same.

We are committed to shaping the future with our students and our community through **innovation** that sparks creative solutions to encourage continuous improvement, adaptation, and evolution in a rapidly changing world.

Vision

Aurora University aspires to be a leading Midwest university recognized for its access to an affordable and adaptive high-quality education that is student-centered, teaching-focused, and committed to excellence. Our collaborative learning environment will empower lifelong learners to elevate their lives and those of others, foster critical thinking, and prepare learners to be catalysts for societal advancement. Aurora University will continue its tradition of integrating the liberal arts with STEM and professional credentials. We will maintain our growth and financial strength by ongoing development of a hybrid campus, that responsibly embraces emerging technology and the AI era, meeting the needs of modern learners and future employers. Recognizing the essential role of

faculty and staff in fulfilling our mission, Aurora University will seek to be an employer of choice. Together we will redefine the landscape of higher education and make a lasting impact on our society.

Governance

An independent, nonsectarian institution organized under the laws of the State of Illinois, Aurora University is governed by a Board of Trustees representing the community at large and various constituencies of the university. Within the university, students are subject to the provisions of the "A-Book" (student handbook); faculty are governed under the provisions of the Aurora University Faculty Handbook; and all employees are subject to the university's HR Policy Manual. In common with all schools and colleges in Illinois, public or private, Aurora University is subject to the oversight of the Illinois Board of Higher Education as provided by law. Graduate students are also subject to the provisions of their respective graduate program handbooks.

Approvals and Accreditations

Approvals and Accreditations

The **Higher Learning Commission (HLC)** accredits Aurora University at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels.

HLC Contact Information

Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle St., Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1413
Phone: 800-621-7440 / 312-263-0456. Fax: 312-263-7462
hlcommission.org

The baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing at Aurora University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001; 202-887-6791. www.ccneaccreditation.org (<https://www.ccneaccreditation.org/>)

The baccalaureate and master's of social work degree programs at Aurora University are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, 333 John Carlyle St., Suite 400; Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-683-8080. www.csw.org (<https://www.csw.org/>)

The Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor training program is accredited by the Illinois Certification Board (ICB), 401 E. Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62702; 217-698-8110. www.iaodapca.org (<https://www.iaodapca.org/>)

The master's degree program in athletic training at Aurora University is accredited by Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education; 2002 K St., 3rd Floor North, Washington DC 20006; 512-733-9700. caate.net (<https://caate.net/>)

Licensure Programs

- Aurora University's **baccalaureate and master's nursing degree programs in Illinois** are approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation idfpr.illinois.gov (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/general-information/approvals-accreditation/idfpr.illinois.gov>)
 - Graduates from the nursing baccalaureate and master's degree programs are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® Examination).
- Aurora University's **baccalaureate and master's of social work degree programs** do not require state approval. Illinois does require a license

to be an Illinois Licensed Social Worker (LSW) or an Illinois Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

Following the changes of Public Act 102-0326, starting January 1, 2022, the licensing examination is no longer required for licensure as an Illinois Licensed Social Worker (LSW). New LSW applicants are not required to complete the Association of Social Work Board's (ASWB) Master's examination prior to licensure. The Illinois Department of Professional and Financial Regulations (IDFPR) issues LSW licenses to individuals who apply to IDFPR and have documented meeting all other requirements for LSW licensure.

- Aurora University's **Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor training program** does not require state approval. The Illinois Certification Board offers examinations to become a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor
- Aurora University's **Athletic Training program** does not require state approval. In Illinois, athletic trainers must be certified by the Board of Certification (BOC) (www.bocatc.org) and licensed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (idfpr.illinois.gov) (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/general-information/approvals-accreditation/idfpr.illinois.gov>). Illinois does not track certification pass rates for athletic training programs.
- Aurora University's **Therapeutic Recreation program** does not require state approval. Therapeutic Recreation graduates are eligible to sit for the certification exam and acquire the Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist® (CTRS) credential. AU offers the academic path for the traditional academic graduate. Steps include (1) Completion of bachelor's degree or higher with a concentration in Recreational Therapy (Therapeutic Recreation); (2) Completion of a minimum of 14 weeks/560 of hour internship supervised by a CTRS; and (3) Successful completion of the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification Exam.
- Aurora University's **initial teacher licensure programs** are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education (isbe.net/Pages/IHE-Information.aspx?ItemId=2) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IHE-Information.aspx?ItemId=2>), through the School of Education, in
 - Biology
 - ESL/Bilingual
 - Chemistry
 - Early Childhood Special Education with ESL/Bilingual
 - Elementary Education
 - English
 - Mathematics
 - Physical Education
 - Social Studies
 - Special Education

The Illinois Principal Endorsement credential is offered through the School of Education. The Reading Specialist Endorsement (K-12) and the Reading Teacher Endorsement are offered in Illinois.

Other Approvals

- Aurora University is grandfather-authorized by the Illinois Board of Higher Education to operate as a postsecondary institution and grant degrees in the Fox Valley Region. Additional select programs are authorized in the South Metropolitan, West Suburban, Central, Western, and North Suburban regions.

State Authorization

- Aurora University has been approved to participate in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA). NC-SARA is a voluntary, regional approach to state oversight of postsecondary distance education.

Aurora Campus

Located in an attractive residential neighborhood on the southwest side of Aurora, the 40-acre main campus contains 29 instructional, administrative, and residence buildings. The distinctive, red-tiled roofs specified by Charles Eckhart in his donation for the original campus mark the major buildings (347 S. Gladstone Avenue, Aurora, IL 60506).

In addition to the main campus, Aurora University offers programs off campus for the convenience of students. Select undergraduate and graduate degree programs are available at the University Center at McHenry County College (222 Church St., Woodstock, Illinois 60098), and the education program offers graduate degrees at school districts throughout northern Illinois. Online programs are available through AU Online (online.aurora.edu (<https://online.aurora.edu/>)).

Undergraduate Programs of Study

Suggested supplemental course listings are available for students wishing to pursue graduate study in chiropractic, dentistry, engineering, law, medicine, nutrition, occupational therapy, optometry, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician's assistant, podiatry, respiratory therapy, speech and language pathology, and veterinary medicine programs. Please see the program chair in your major for guidance.

Undergraduate Majors

Accounting (BS)
 Actuarial Science (BS)
 Biology (BS)
 Biology for Secondary Education Licensure (BS)
 Business Administration (BS)
 Chemistry (BS)
 Chemistry for Secondary Education Licensure (BS)
 Communication (BA)
 Communication Sciences and Disorders (BS)
 Computer Science (BS)
 Criminal Justice (BA)
 Cybersecurity (BS)
 Data Engineering (BS)
 Early Childhood Special Education with Bilingual/ESL (BA)
 Elementary Education (BA)
 English (BA)
 English for Secondary Education Licensure (BA)
 Environmental Studies and Sustainability (BA)
 Exercise Science (BS)
 Finance (BS)
 General Studies (BA)

Graphic Design (BA)
 Healthcare Administration (BS)
 Health Science (BS)
 History (BA)
 History for Secondary Education Licensure (BA)
 Human Animal Studies (BS)
 Marketing (BS)
 Mathematics (BS)
 Mathematics for Secondary Education Licensure (BS)
 Music (BA)
 Nursing (BSN)
 Parks and Recreation Leadership (BS)
 Physical Education (K–12) Teacher Licensure (BA)
 Political Science and Public Policy (BA)
 Psychology (BA)
 Secondary Education (supplemental major)
 Social Work (BSW)
 Sociology (BA)
 Spanish (BA)
 Special Education with ESL/Bilingual (BA)
 Sport Management (BA)
 Theatre (BA)
 Therapeutic Recreation (BS)

Undergraduate Majors at University Center

Elementary Education (BA)
 Nursing (RN to BSN)
 Social Work (BSW)

Undergraduate Majors at Aurora University Online

Business Administration (BS)
 Business Management (BA)
 Criminal Justice (BA)
 General Studies (BA)

Healthcare Administration (BS)
 Psychology (BA)
 Social Work (BSW)

Undergraduate Minors

Students pursuing bachelor's degrees at Aurora University have the opportunity to explore areas of learning outside of, or supportive of, their major fields by completing a minor. A minor is not required for graduation. At least 25% of the credits applied to minor must be taken at Aurora University. All coursework presented for a minor must bear grades of "C" or better, and only one course taken on the CR/NCR (pass/fail) grading system may be applied.

American Sign Language

Biology
 Black Studies
 Chemistry
 Coaching and Youth Sport Development
 Computer Science

Creative Writing
Criminal Justice

Economics

English

Environmental Studies and Sustainability
Gender Studies
Homeland Security

History
Latin American and Latino/a Studies
Mathematics
Museum Studies
Music
Neurodiversity Studies

School Health Education
Spanish
Special Education

Sports Media

Graduate Programs of Study

Aurora University offers graduate programs leading to the master's degree, master's-level post-baccalaureate credentials and the Doctor of Education degree. Since the establishment of the first graduate program in 1980, Aurora University has been dedicated to offering graduate study that promotes the career and professional success of its students.

Doctor of Education (EdD) in Leadership in Education Administration or Instructional Leadership: Coaching and Mentoring

Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction: Teaching Diverse Learners (MACI-TDL)

Master of Arts in Educational Leadership (MAEL) with Principal Endorsement

Master of Arts in Educational Technology (MAET)

Master of Arts in Reading Instruction (MARI)

Reading Teacher Endorsement*

Special Education Endorsement (LBS1)*

Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Master of Science in Athletic Training (MSAT)

Master of Science in Computer Science (MSCS)

Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ)

Master of Science in Exercise Science (MSES)

Master of Science in Nursing (MENP)

Master of Social Work (MSW) Tracks in addictions/CODPA, child welfare, faith-based, forensic, gerontology, health care, leadership administration, military and veteran social work, school social work
Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC)*

ESL/Bilingual Endorsement*

Superintendent Endorsement*

Co-Occurring Substance Use and Mental Health Disorder Professional (COPD I)*

* Curriculum supports independent endorsement – no academic credential awarded by the University.

Graduate Programs at University Center

Bilingual/ESL Endorsement*

Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction: Teaching Diverse Learners (MACI-TDL)

Master of Arts in Educational Leadership (MAEL) with Principal Endorsement

* Curriculum supports independent endorsement – no academic credential awarded by the University.

Graduate Programs at Aurora University Online

Doctor of Education (EdD) in Leadership in Educational Administration or Instructional Leadership: Coaching and Mentoring

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Master of Educational Leadership (MAEL) with Principal Endorsement

Master of Public Administration (MPA)

Master of Science in Exercise Science (MSES)

Master of Social Work (MSW) Tracks in addictions, child welfare, forensic, gerontology, health care, leadership administration, military and veteran social work, school social work

Post MSW: Illinois Professional Educator's License with School Social Work Endorsement

Master of Social Work/Master of Business Administration Dual Degree

Master of Social Work/Master of Public Administration Dual Degree

Special Education Endorsement (LBS1)*

Superintendent Endorsement*

*Curriculum supports independent endorsement – no academic credential awarded by the University.

General Education and Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Programs

The university's approach to general education reflects a commitment to the transformative power of learning. Grounded in the university's core values of integrity, citizenship, continuous learning, and excellence, the General Education program and the university's degree programs seek to develop and graduate responsible citizens who discover and reflect, communicate effectively, and think critically.

Students in their first year at Aurora University develop foundational academic skills in quantitative reasoning, argument-based writing, discussion, and critical reading. Specifically, students satisfy the quantitative and formal reasoning competency requirement through coursework or examination. They take the university's core composition course, ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing. They also take IDS-1200 Discover What Matters and IDS-1150 First Year Experience. While the IDS-1200 Discover What Matters course focuses on the development of the key academic skills of effective communication and critical thinking, the IDS-1150 First Year Experience course encourages students to reflect upon their interests, skills, and values, and consider how these might inform career and life aspirations. It is also designed to help students make a successful transition to college. For this reason, the course is not a requirement for transfer students. Adult Degree Completion and undergraduate online program students engage in IDS-3040 Global Justice, rather than the

first year IDS courses, given the extensive life experience that they bring to their studies. The IDS courses set a tone of inquiry, careful reading, critical thinking, and the communication and application of ideas.

During their junior year, students participate in an assessment, advising, and mentoring process. Students demonstrate their learning to this point in the curriculum through campus-wide assessment. They receive guidance in relation to their final two years of study, including ways they can broaden their experiences or strengthen their skill sets. Attention is given to the steps students need to take to pursue their interests beyond college, whether in their lives, careers, or graduate study. Students also receive one-on-one mentoring with major faculty where these conversations may best take place.

The university is committed to assessing within its General Education program six categories of learning outcomes. These include:

- Artistic Literacy
- Discovery and Reflection
- Quantitative and Formal Reasoning
- Cultural Literacy
- Human Inquiry
- Scientific Inquiry

In addition, the university is committed to assessing the following two University Learning Outcomes in both the General Education program and the major programs:

- Effective Communication
- Critical Thinking

The university is committed to measuring the achievement of the program's outcomes and using assessment as a rationale for program revisions.

These six categories are a distillation and reflection of careful discussion among faculty and staff as to what skills and characteristics ought to represent an Aurora University graduate. What has emerged is a picture of a graduate who demonstrates intellectual and ethical integrity; who is well informed and seeks quality evidence; who reflects critically on values, actions, and consequences; who engages with those holding values and perspectives different from his or her own and seeks out alternative perspectives; who participates responsibly in the community and world; and who contributes to a culture of compassion and respect for dignity. Students who demonstrate effective communication and critical thinking can be characterized as those who read and listen critically; who discuss ideas with respect and openness; who pose and pursue meaningful questions in a range of areas; who analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information and arguments; who make connections among academic and nonacademic experiences; who use technology responsibly; who collaborate and exhibit creativity; and who write and speak with clarity and purpose.

Finally, there is a commitment within the core curriculum to engage with primary sources, i.e., original writings, research or productions by scholars, experts, artists, or thinkers. Interaction with primary sources, rather than other people's interpretations of them only, marks the entry into the process of inquiry and critical thinking. The ultimate aim is a curriculum grounded in the university's core values, which provides the kind of transformative education articulated in the university's mission and vision statements.

Assessment of Learning Outcomes in Graduate Programs

Aurora University is committed to the transformative power of learning. Grounded in the university's core values of integrity, citizenship, continuous learning, and excellence, the university's graduate degree programs seek to ensure that its students demonstrate high levels of effective communication and critical thinking skills.

Each of Aurora University's graduate programs identifies specific learning outcomes that are essential to practitioners or scholars in that respective field or discipline. These program-level learning outcomes are articulated in the section of the catalog for that particular program. In addition, the university is committed to assessing the following two University Learning Outcomes in all graduate degree programs:

- Effective Communication
- Critical Thinking

The university believes that students who seek graduate degrees must achieve proficiency in these areas in order to be effective in their intended professional and scholarly fields. The university is committed to measuring the achievement of these outcomes and using assessment as a rationale for program revisions.

The ultimate aim is a curriculum grounded in the university's core values, which provides the kind of transformative education articulated in the university's mission and vision statements.

Colleges and Schools

DEPARTMENT WEBSITE (<https://aurora.edu/academics/colleges-schools/>)

At Aurora University, academic programs are organized into three colleges, each which contain several schools:

- **College of Education and Social Work**
 - School of Education
 - George Williams School of Social Work
- **College of Health and Sciences**
 - School of Health Sciences
 - School of Natural Sciences, Technology, and Math
- **College of Liberal Arts and Business**
 - Dunham School of Business
 - School of Humanities
 - School of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- **School of Nursing**

Special Study Opportunities

In addition to study on campus and at regular university sites, AU offers its students an opportunity to advance their studies in several special programs in the United States and abroad. Through Travel in May and Spring Break travel/study courses, students can immerse themselves in another culture while studying with AU faculty.

Academic Calendar

2025-26 Academic Calendar

Fall Semester 2025

August 18-22, 2025	Opening Week - Faculty Orientation/ Meetings
August 20, 2025	AU Day (Welcome back meeting for faculty/staff)
August 22, 2025	New Student Convocation
August 22-23, 2025	New Student Orientation
August 25, 2025	Fall Semester Classes Begin
August 31, 2025	End of Add for day classes; evening classes may be added prior to second class meeting; end of 100% refund for Fall Semester
August 25 - October 18, 2025	8-week Fall Module I
September 1, 2025	Labor Day - no classes
October 5, 2025	Module I - last day to drop with automatic "W"
October 10-12, 2025	Homecoming and Family Weekend
October 16-19, 2025	Fall Weekend - no traditional day classes
October 20 - December 13, 2025	8-Week Fall Module II
November 9, 2024	Last day to drop fall semester classes with automatic "W"
November 26-30, 2025	Thanksgiving Holiday
November 30, 2025	Module II - last day to drop with automatic "W"
December 8-13, 2025	Final Examinations
December 13, 2025	Fall Commencement
December 16, 2025	Grades due to Registrar
December 24, 2025 - January 1, 2026	University closed for holiday break - no classes

Spring Semester 2026

January 12, 2026	Spring Semester Classes Begin
January 18, 2026	End of Add for day classes; evening classes may be added prior to second class meeting; end of 100% refund for spring semester
January 12 - March 7, 2026	8-Week Spring Module I
January 19, 2026	Martin Luther King, Jr., Day - no classes
February 9-14, 2026	Assessment Week (classes still in session)
February 22, 2026	Module I - last day to drop with automatic "W"
March 9-15, 2026	Spring Break - no classes
March 16 - May 9, 2026	8-Week Spring Module II
April 3-5, 2026	Holiday Break
April 5, 2026	Last day to drop spring semester classes with automatic "W"
April 17, 2026	Honors Convocation (no traditional day classes after 1:05 p.m.)
April 26, 2026	Module II - last day to drop with automatic "W"

May 4-9, 2026	Final Examinations
May 9-10, 2026	Spring Commencement
May 12, 2026	Grades due to Registrar's Office

Summer Term 2025

May 11 - August 29, 2026	Summer Session
May 11-30, 2026	Summer May Term (3 weeks)
May 11 - July 4, 2026	Summer Module I (8 Weeks)
May 25, 2026	Memorial Day - no classes
June 1 - August 8, 2026	Summer 10-week Term
June 1 - July 4, 2026	Summer Term I (5 weeks)
June 19, 2026	Juneteenth - no classes
July 3, 2026	Independence Day Observance - no classes
July 6 - August 29, 2026	Summer Module II (8 Weeks)
July 6 - August 8, 2026	Summer Term II (5 weeks)

Credit Hour Policy

Each semester hour assigned to a course at Aurora University corresponds to a minimum of 50 minutes of instructional time each week over a 16-week semester, including finals week, or the equivalent amount of total instructional time per credit hour over a condensed amount of time (a three, five, eight or ten-week term). Students are also expected to do 2-3 hours of outside work (including assignments or studying) for every one semester hour of in-class time.

Aurora University expects that the total combined amount of classroom time and out-of-class student work at both the undergraduate and graduate level will adhere to this credit hour policy.

For courses that are in an alternative delivery format (laboratory work, studio work, practica, clinical, field, internships, thesis, dissertation, online or hybrid modalities, etc.) a semester hour corresponds to a mix of instructional contact, directed activities, and student work that equate to the sum of the in-class and outside time for a semester hour in a traditional course. For both traditional and alternative delivery courses, these expectations should be outlined in the course syllabus.

This credit hour policy is applied to all course locations and modalities under the supervision of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs.

The Office of Academic Affairs works with the department chairs, academic deans, and Office of the Registrar to determine and maintain the appropriate alignment of academic engagement and credit hours assigned per course, per the Federal Credit Hour Policy and Course Modality Policy. The academic chairs and deans are initially responsible for ensuring that courses scheduled by their departments and schools comply with the Federal Credit Hour Policy. The Office of the Registrar will review course meeting times and associated credit hour assignment for alignment with the Federal Credit Hour Policy, and communicate any discrepancies to the Office of Academic Affairs. The Office of Academic Affairs will reevaluate the credit assignment for those courses and communicate needed adjustments to the Office of the Registrar and academic departments and schools.

Course Modalities

Three course modalities are recognized at Aurora University: campus-based synchronous courses/experiences, remote synchronous courses/experiences, and online asynchronous courses/experiences.

Synchronous modalities may include online components aiming to enhance learning or substitute for synchronous interactions between instructors and students (reduction in seat time).

Campus-based synchronous courses/experiences: traditional type of courses where all or most of the class meetings take place in a classroom during an established schedule.

Web-Enhanced - A small percent (reduction in seat time less than 25%) of the course delivery and/or interactions between instructor and students may occur online, meaning that web-based tools and/or web-based activities (e.g., online quizzes, online videos) are used to supplement the course. A web-based component that enhances a course does not necessarily reduce synchronous interactions.

Hybrid courses - involve online components that reduce seat time by 25-74%. These online components substitute the traditional synchronous meetings. Hybrid courses should be clearly identified in the course schedule so students are fully aware as they register for a hybrid course. Likewise, the synchronous class meetings, rooms and times should be clearly specified in the course schedule and course syllabus. Courses may be delivered in a hybrid format upon formal written approval by the relevant academic dean.

Remote synchronous courses/experiences: traditional type of courses where all or most of the class meetings take place via the internet during an established synchronous schedule.

Web-Enhanced - A small percent (reduction in seat time less than 25%) of the course delivery and/or interactions between instructor and students may occur online, meaning that web-based tools and/or web-based activities (e.g., online quizzes, online videos) are used to supplement the course. A web-based component that enhances a course does not necessarily reduce synchronous interactions.

Hybrid courses - involve online components that reduce seat time by 25-74%. These online components substitute the traditional synchronous meetings. Hybrid courses should be clearly identified in the course schedule so students are fully aware as they register for a hybrid course. Likewise, the synchronous class meetings, rooms and times should be clearly specified in the course schedule and course syllabus. Courses may be delivered in a hybrid format upon formal written approval by the relevant academic dean.

Online asynchronous courses/experiences: Online courses at Aurora University are fully delivered online with the exception of required fieldwork, internship, and clinical requirements, which must take place at approved sites. All asynchronous online courses provide students with routine, scheduled synchronous opportunities for engagement with faculty and other students.

Non-Discrimination

Aurora University expressly prohibits any form of unlawful employee discrimination or harassment based on race, color, religion, marital status, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or status in any group protected by federal, state, or local law. Inquiries regarding the Equal Employment Opportunity policy can be addressed to:

Human Resources
Aurora University
347 S. Gladstone Ave
Aurora, IL 60506

Equal Opportunity Employment

Aurora University affords equal employment opportunities regardless of race, religion, color, sex, marital status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or status in any group protected by federal, state, or local law. This policy extends to all employment practices and all employee types. Inquiries regarding the Equal Employment Opportunity policy can be addressed to:

Human Resources
Aurora University
347 S. Gladstone Ave
Aurora, IL 60506

Sexual Misconduct Policy (Title IX)

Aurora University is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect. Aurora University does not discriminate, or tolerate discrimination, against any member of its community on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex/gender, gender identity, age, religion, disability, pregnancy, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, or any other status protected by applicable federal, state, or local law in matters of admissions, employment, or in any aspect of the educational programs or activities it offers.

Sex discrimination, sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual violence, and sexual exploitation), and interpersonal violence (including dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking) are serious offenses that have major consequences for the victim, the respondent, and campus community and are prohibited by Aurora University Policy Statements A-1 and A-2 in the A-Book (student handbook). Aurora University is committed to addressing sexual misconduct and will not tolerate any sexual misconduct in accordance with Title IX and other relevant federal legislation. For additional information regarding this policy, please visit aurora.edu/sexual-misconduct (<http://www.aurora.edu/sexual-misconduct/>).

Catalog Statements and Terms of Issue

This catalog does not constitute a contract between Aurora University and its students. Where possible, Aurora University permits its students to graduate under the degree requirements in effect when they entered the university provided enrollment is continuous from the time of matriculation to graduation, or as provided under the Leave of Absence policy. However, the university reserves the right to modify or eliminate academic programs and course offerings and to modify academic requirements for all students at any time without prior notice and without incurring obligation of any kind. The university also reserves the right to modify its academic and administrative policies, regulations, and procedures, as well as tuition, fees, and conditions of payment, without prior notice at any time.

While this catalog represents the best information available at the time of publication, all information contained herein, including statements of fees, course offerings, admission policies, and graduation requirements, is subject to change without notice.

Waivers and Exceptions to Academic Regulations

No exceptions to academic regulations or waivers of academic requirements are recognized by the university except in those cases where a student has followed the university's procedures for obtaining such waiver or exception as published in the university's Academic Regulations and Policies. Individual advisors or faculty members are not authorized to grant waivers or exceptions. All waivers and exceptions granted by authorized university officials must be provided in writing.

Admission

Aurora University admits qualified students from varied geographical, cultural, economic, racial, and religious backgrounds. In each candidate, Aurora University looks for two general qualities: academic ability enabling a person to benefit from the university's excellent programs and a diversity of talents and interests that will make our campus community a better and richer place to learn. Applications will be considered on the basis of academic ability, character, activities, and motivation. Please note that admission requirements to specific programs may be more rigorous and varied from those of the institution.

All correspondence about traditional undergraduate admission and campus visits should be addressed to the:

Office of Admission
Aurora University
347 S. Gladstone Ave.
Aurora, IL 60506-4892

For further information about admission to the university, call 630-844-5533, admission@aurora.edu, or visit [aurora.edu](http://www.aurora.edu) (<http://www.aurora.edu>).

All correspondence about graduate admission should be addressed to the:

Center for Graduate Studies
Aurora University
347 S. Gladstone Ave.
Aurora, IL 60506-4892

For further information about admission to the university, call 630-947-8955, email AUadmission@aurora.edu or visit [aurora.edu](http://www.aurora.edu) (<http://www.aurora.edu>).

Information regarding admissions to fully online programs may be found at online.aurora.edu (<https://online.aurora.edu>). Email at onlineinfo@aurora.edu or call 888-688-1147.

Undergraduate Admission

Entering Freshmen

Students who have completed fewer than 15 semester hours or 22.5 quarter hours of college work after high school are regarded as entering freshmen and are considered for regular admission on the basis of the following general expectations:

- Graduation from an accredited high school (in a college-preparatory curriculum)¹ or completion of a GED certificate
- One of the following:

- ACT composite score of at least 19
- Equivalent combined SAT scores (Math and Critical Reading)
- Transcripts of all high school and previous college work must be provided

- ¹ Aurora University defines a college preparatory curriculum or its equivalent as totaling at least 16 academic units as specified below:
- English 4 years
 - Mathematics 3 years
 - Social Studies 3 years
 - Science 3 years
 - Electives 3 years

Test Optional Admission

Entering freshmen may choose to be reviewed for admission without standardized test scores (ACT or SAT). If a student chooses to be reviewed as test-optional, their admission and scholarship (if applicable) will be based on their academic record.

Final official high school transcripts, documenting date of graduation should be submitted to the Office of Admission and Financial Aid prior to the beginning of the student's first semester of classes. Final official high school transcripts **must** be submitted prior to the end of the student's first semester of classes, or financial aid may not be disbursed and/or a hold may be placed on future registration.

The Vice President for Enrollment, or designee, may grant admission with conditions to applicants for admission who do not meet the minimum requirements but are deemed by the Vice President for Enrollment, or designee, to warrant special consideration based on one or a combination of the following:

1. Standardized test scores (ACT/SAT) that indicate a potential for academic success at Aurora University.
2. Previous high school academic success (i.e., grade point average and class rank) that indicate a potential for academic success at Aurora University.
3. Two references from teachers who can speak of the applicant's potential for success in college. It is preferred that one of these references be written by a current or former English teacher.
4. A personal interview with the Vice President for Enrollment or designee.
5. A detailed, written, personal statement by the applicant to the Vice President for Enrollment explaining the applicant's previous academic performance, his/her academic/career goals and his/her interest in Aurora University.
6. Other pertinent information that the Office of Admission deems sufficient and appropriate to warrant an admission decision.
7. Any combination of the above upon which the Vice President for Enrollment, or designee, may deem sufficient and appropriate to warrant an admission decision.

Transfer Students

Any applicant for undergraduate admission, who has completed at least 15 semester hours of transferable college coursework from a regionally accredited college or university after high school, will be considered a transfer student. Applicants with less than 30 semester hours of transferable college coursework may be required to meet the academic

qualifications for freshman applicants and provide official high school transcripts with proof of graduation and ACT/SAT test scores. All transfer applicants must present proof of graduation or satisfactory completion of the GED if not evident from college transcripts. Students who have been enrolled in high school and have concurrently taken college courses should check with an admission representative about their entry status.

The Vice President for Enrollment or a designate may grant full approval for admission to transfer applicants based upon the following criteria:

1. The student was in good academic standing at the college or university last attended and whose overall college record yields a GPA of at least 2.4 on a 4.0 scale for coursework that could normally be considered applicable to degree programs at Aurora University. Individual programs may set stricter admission requirements, including requirements for proficiency in written and/or spoken English subject to the approval of the Chief Academic Officer.
2. The Vice President for Enrollment, or designee, may admit an applicant for admission to Aurora University on academic warning if the applicant was on academic probation or had been dismissed from a college or university previously attended or whose overall college record yields a GPA of less than a 2.4 on a 4.0 scale for coursework that could normally be considered applicable to degree programs at Aurora University. The criteria upon which a transfer applicant may be approved for admission on warning will be identical to the criteria used in consideration of conditional freshmen applicants, as noted above. Admission to programs with approved standards of their own is to be governed by the standards of those programs.

Any student who has been dismissed from another college or university must attend a community college for at least two semesters (not including summer) prior to being considered for admission. Any student who would like to appeal this policy must do so in writing to the Vice President of Enrollment or designee.

Center for Graduate Studies

The Center for Graduate Studies was established in 2004 to serve as a central location where adult and graduate students can obtain the information they need to make decisions about returning to school. It is an environment designed to make returning adults feel comfortable and confident when selecting Aurora University as their school of choice.

Specifically, the Center for Graduate Studies at Aurora University manages the enrollment processes for adult and graduate programs. This includes recruiting new adult and graduate students, communicating with current students, helping academic departments design new programs, and serving as liaisons between the student population and the university. The Center for Graduate Studies staff members understand the adult and graduate population. They are trained to provide unofficial evaluations of past college credits and to provide assistance to adults who want to return to school. The focus is on helping graduate students begin their programs, reach their goals, and realize their full potential.

The adult students who are interested in completing an undergraduate degree, enhancing an undergraduate degree with a certificate or endorsement, changing careers, or pursuing a master's certificate or degree feel at home in the Center for Graduate Studies. AU's adult and graduate programs are designed to fit an adult's busy schedule with classes offered during the day, in the evening, on weekends, or online. The high quality and relevant programs include small class sizes taught

by professors dedicated to students and their fields of interest. The experiences adult and graduate students bring to the classroom enhance the learning environment.

The primary goal of the center is to provide comprehensive service to adult and graduate students. Committed to being as informative as possible when it comes to enrollment and academic information for students, enrollment representatives help adult and graduate students make the transition to academic life and understand the policies and procedures associated with returning to college. The center is also responsible for educational outreach to the corporate sector and the community, providing information about the opportunities available for adults at AU.

The center's mission is to provide adult and graduate students with the skills, resources, confidence, and peace of mind to make informed decisions when selecting Aurora University for continuing their education. Because of the commitment to lifelong learning, staff members stay in close contact with students. The enrollment process for adult and graduate students is facilitated by:

- Acting as liaisons between students and the university
- Communicating with prospective and current students regarding their academic and professional goals
- Recruiting students and assisting them with their educational plans
- Assisting students during the application and registration process

The Center for Graduate Studies can be reached at 630-947-8955 or AUadmission@aurora.edu.

AU Online

AU Online was established in 2012 to serve adult undergraduate and graduate students unable to attend courses at Aurora University campus locations. The staff of AU Online, located at the Aurora University campus, manages all aspects of the student learning experience, including recruitment, enrollment, marketing, advising, financial aid counseling, faculty recruitment and development, course and program development, and instructional and academic support.

Potential and current students interested in taking their courses fully online will find staff ready to answer questions about curriculum, the online learning experience, transfer credit, financial aid, developing a program plan for graduation, and academic support so that they may make an informed decision about selecting an online program of study. AU Online programs are developed in coordination with the faculty at each of the Aurora University colleges (College of Education and Social Work, College of Liberal Arts and Business, and College of Health and Sciences) and have the same learning outcomes and accreditation as those offered at Aurora University campus locations. Many faculty members teach courses in both modalities, on campus and online. All AU Online faculty members are selected based upon their academic credentials and work experience so that students learn from practitioners in their fields of study. Additionally, AU Online faculty members are required to complete training in online learning methods and practice prior to teaching and continue to receive ongoing development and support through AU Online. Aurora University participates in the NC-SARA state authorization reciprocity agreement consortium. As a participating member, AU Online may offer online programs to students who live in all 50 states. Those interested in learning more about AU Online may email onlineinfo@aurora.edu or call 888-570-5070.

Graduate Admission

Aurora University admits qualified students from varied geographical, cultural, economic, racial and religious backgrounds. In each candidate, Aurora University looks for two general qualities: academic ability enabling a person to benefit from the university's excellent programs and a diversity of talents and interests that will make our campus community a better and richer place to learn. Applications will be considered on the basis of academic ability, character, activities and motivation.

All correspondence about admission should be addressed to the:

Center for Graduate Studies
Aurora University
347 S. Gladstone Ave.
Aurora, IL 60506-4892

For further information about admission to the university, call 630-844-5294, email AUadmission@aurora.edu or visit [aurora.edu](http://www.aurora.edu) (<http://www.aurora.edu>).

General Graduate Admission Procedures

Admission to Aurora University graduate programs requires that students meet general university requirements for graduate admission, as well as various specific requirements of the particular program the student wishes to enter. General university requirements are detailed below. Refer to the individual program sections that follow for the additional requirements specific to each graduate program.

All applicants for graduate admission must submit:

1. A completed Application for admission. (Note: The application may be completed online at [aurora.edu/apply/](http://www.aurora.edu/apply/) (<http://www.aurora.edu/apply/>).)
2. Official sealed undergraduate transcripts noting a completed bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution. Any graduate-level transcripts sent directly to the Center for Graduate Studies. Some programs may require only specific transcripts to be submitted. Aurora University accepts official transcripts at AU-ETranscripts@aurora.edu (AU-ETranscripts@aurora.edu).
3. Letters of recommendation from persons able to attest to the student's academic and/or professional potential.

See the specific requirements of the program; some programs require letters of recommendation from specific individuals or letters addressing specific areas of preparation or competence.

Upon submission of satisfactory credentials for admission to graduate study at the university, the student's file is referred to the graduate program for consideration of the student's application for admission to that program.

General Graduate Academic Admission Requirements

1. A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution in a field providing appropriate background for master's study in the student's chosen program. Students whose undergraduate backgrounds are in fields other than those in which they are seeking to enter graduate study may be required to complete deficiency or prerequisite coursework before beginning master's or doctoral courses.

2. An academic record indicative of a high probability of success in graduate study. An applicant with an undergraduate GPA of less than 2.75 on a 4.0 scale must be reviewed by a committee of master's program faculty. Individual programs may have higher admission standards.

Admission to Graduate Programs

Students admitted to graduate study at the university may only enter a specific program of study upon the approval of the program. Individual programs may require submission of additional credentials specific to the requirements of study in the program, and program-specific admission requirements may be more rigorous or varied than the general university requirements.

Cross-Listed Undergraduate/Graduate Courses

Courses with numbers in the 5000 series are offered both as advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate courses. Graduate or undergraduate credit is awarded based on whether the student is admitted to the university as a graduate or undergraduate student. Any exceptions require the written approval of the appropriate graduate program director or academic dean; this approval must be presented by the student at the time of registration in order for the student to be registered for credit differing from admission status. Courses with numbers in the 6000 series or above are open to graduate students only.

International Students

Aurora University welcomes students from countries outside the United States to earn undergraduate and graduate degrees. It is recommended that undergraduate international students enroll at the beginning of the fall semester. Students who are not U.S. citizens and do not hold a U.S. permanent resident visa (i.e., green card) must complete the international student admission process. Some programs may have additional requirements or deadlines. Please contact the Office of Admission for more information.

Admission requirements are as follows:

Application Deadlines

- Fall semester (August–December): June 1
- Spring semester (January–May): October 1
- Summer semester (May–August): February 1

Application Process for International Students

1. Apply online at here (<https://aurora.edu/admission/apply/>) or via the Common App (freshmen students only).
2. Official transcripts from schools attended in the United States must be sent directly to the Office of Admission as part of the admission process. Undergraduate applicants must request official transcripts from all secondary and/or post-secondary schools. Graduate applicants must request official transcripts from all post-secondary schools.
3. Certified copies of all official transcripts from international schools attended must be sent directly to the Office of Admission as part of the admission process.

4. Specific official certified evaluations of all academic transcripts of college-level credit from schools attended outside of the United States must be evaluated by one of the following companies: Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE) OR World Education Service (WES). All evaluations must be sent directly to the Office of Admission by one of the two companies noted below. Students that have attended schools outside of the United States that provide academic transcripts in English may be waived from providing a foreign transcript evaluation.
 - If evaluating transcripts with Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE) evaluations type must be a Course-by-Course Evaluation with original and/or authenticated education documents.
 - If evaluating transcripts with World Education Service (WES), evaluation type must be an Evaluation Report and Verified Transcripts.
5. Official English competency test results (non-native speaking countries) must be sent directly to the Office of Admission. The minimum scores required for admission are as follows:
 - a. TOEFL paper-based: 550 or higher
 - b. TOEFL computer-based: 213 or higher
 - c. TOEFL Internet-based: 79 or higher
 - d. ELS level 109
 - e. IELTS: 6.5 or higher
6. Students from English-speaking countries must submit an official score report from the American College Test (ACT) – minimum composite score of 19 (online college code = 0950); or equivalent Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).
7. References must be academic or professional based (all items are required).
 - a. One letter of recommendation
 - b. One personal statement
 - c. Two references providing contact information (email preferred)
8. International students applying for an I-20 Student Visa must submit the Statement of Financial Resources form as required by Aurora University and the guidelines from the Student and Exchange Visitor Program. This form must be signed and notarized and be accompanied by an original letter from a bank official certifying the availability of funds for study at Aurora University.
9. Copy of current passport.
10. Copy of I-94.
11. Copy of visa only if applicants are currently in the U.S. or holding a valid U.S. visa.
12. Additional documentation for graduate applicants may be required. Please contact the Center for Graduate Studies at 630-844-5294 for more information.

All materials must be received prior to the deadline date to be considered for admission to Aurora University. Students requiring an I-20 will not be eligible for need-based financial aid.

Once admitted to Aurora University, international applicants will need to submit the following items before I-20 will be issued:

1. Medical forms (including Immunization Records as required by the State of Illinois): All international students are required to submit a medical form (required by Illinois state law) with complete immunization records. Refer to the Health Services website (<https://aurora.edu/student-life/campus-services/wellness/>) for additional

information. Be sure to seek out medical insurance through a private vendor.

2. Proof of international medical insurance: A copy of current medical insurance card is needed. If the international applicant does not have international medical insurance, the applicant should contact the Office of Admission for assistance.
3. \$1,000 non-refundable admission deposit: The deposit will be applied to the first semester's tuition payment.

Once admitted and Aurora University receives the above required items:

1. Form I-20 will qualify the non-immigrant applicant for an F-1 student visa. The university will only issue an I-20 after the applicant has met all international application requirements; has been approved for admission to Aurora University, has submitted all required medical forms, provided proof of medical insurance, and submitted the non-refundable \$1,000 deposit. The official I-20 will be mailed to the student. It is the student's responsibility to schedule an appointment with their embassy to obtain a visa before coming to the United States.
2. There is no need-based financial aid available for international students requiring an I-20 visa.
3. Housing is limited to qualified undergraduate students. Graduate students must seek off-campus housing.

Special Admission Status

Undergraduate Student-at-Large

A student who does not hold a bachelor's degree and is not seeking a degree or certificate from Aurora University, but wishes to enroll in a few courses for credit, is defined as a student-at-large. Prerequisites must be satisfied for the courses in which a person wishes to enroll. Only 15 semester hours can be taken as an undergraduate student-at-large. The standard tuition rate applies, and financial aid is not available. A \$100 nonrefundable tuition deposit is required with registration for students-at-large.

Post-Undergraduate Student

A student who holds a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution and wishes to enroll in undergraduate courses for credit, but is not seeking a second degree, may do so as a student-at-large. The standard tuition rate applies, and financial aid is not available. A \$100 nonrefundable tuition deposit is required with registration for students-at-large.

Graduate Student-at-Large Status

A student who wishes to enroll in a graduate-level course, but is not seeking a degree, certificate, or credential may do so as a student-at-large. A maximum of six semester hours may be applied to master's degree programs at Aurora University. Enrollment in specific courses by students-at-large may be restricted by prerequisites or other requirements of individual graduate programs. The standard tuition rate applies, and financial aid is not available. A \$100 nonrefundable tuition deposit is required with registration for students-at-large.

Provisional Student

A student who has applied for regular admission but has been unable to supply all necessary documentation due to circumstances beyond the individual's control may be provisionally admitted to the university

at the discretion of the Vice President for Enrollment. If provisionally admitted, a student may register for classes for one term at his/her own risk (since the records of the educational background are incomplete). An application file must be complete and approved before a student is allowed to register for a second term. Provisionally admitted students must sign an advisement agreement recording their understanding that they are registering for coursework at their own risk with respect to applicability to specific programs or requirements at Aurora University. Provisionally admitted students will not be enrolled in any future term at Aurora University unless fully accepted. Financial aid is not available.

Conditional Admission

A student who has applied for regular admission but has an academic record that does not meet ordinary admission standards may be admitted with conditions to the university at the discretion of the Admission Review Committee (undergraduate) or Graduate Program Director (graduate). Academic progress will be regularly reviewed. Undergraduate students in this admission status are required to participate in other programs or courses designed to help ensure academic success.

Decision Procedures and Relation to University Governance

1. Applicants for admission who meet the academic qualifications outlined above may be approved for admission by the Vice President for Enrollment, or a designee.
2. Applicants for admission who do not meet the stated academic qualifications above will be reviewed and accepted or rejected by the Vice President for Enrollment, or designee, on the basis of guidelines issued by the Academic Standards Committee (undergraduate) or by the Graduate Program Director or designee on the basis of guidelines from the Graduate Affairs Committee (graduate).
3. Applicants with an incomplete application for admission may be approved on a provisional basis only by the Vice President for Enrollment or designee (undergraduate) or by the Graduate Program Director or designee (graduate).

Note: Every aspect of the admission of students to Aurora University will be conducted in accordance with the intentions of the Academic Standards Committee and university policies and regulations relating to nondiscrimination, equal opportunity, and affirmative action.

Additional Bachelor's Degrees

Additional Bachelor's Degrees for Graduates of Other Schools and Alumni of Aurora University not Continuously Enrolled

Holders of baccalaureate degrees from other regionally accredited schools may earn an additional bachelor's degree from Aurora University by completing the balance of the coursework required for the additional degree provided that at least 24 semester hours in each degree is not present in the other, meeting the university's residence requirement (30 semester hours) including the last 24 semester hours in the degree, and by completing an approved major that contains a minimum of 18 semester hours not included in the major of the first degree. All General

Education requirements are deemed to have been met by virtue of completion of the first degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree from Aurora University may earn an additional bachelor's degree by completing the balance of the coursework required for the additional degree provided that at least 24 semester hours in each degree is not present in the other, completing the last 24 semester hours in the degree at Aurora University, and by completing an approved major that contains a minimum of 18 semester hours not included in the major of the first degree. All General Education requirements are deemed to have been met by virtue of completion of the first degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree from Aurora University may complete the courses required for an additional major within two years of the conferral of the latest undergraduate degree, by completing the balance of courses required for any approved major with the same general degree classification as the latest degree conferred (BA/BS), which contains a minimum of 18 semester hours not included in the required courses for the major of the latest conferred degree. A minimum of 18 hours required for the additional major must have been or be completed at AU. No credit by examination or competency credit may be applied toward the balance of required courses. Completion of the requirements of the additional major will be noted on the transcript. Financial aid may not be available for the completion of additional major requirements after an undergraduate degree is conferred.

In all cases, coursework from the student's first degree or major may only be applied toward the new major or the major of the new degree upon approval of the major department or program faculty.

Earning Multiple Graduate Degrees or Credentials

Credit earned in one post-baccalaureate program at Aurora University may be applied toward the requirements of a second program at the option of that program. In those cases, where application of this policy results in a student meeting all specific coursework requirements of a program without having completed the total number of credits required for completion, the graduate program faculty shall determine additional coursework to be completed by the student in order to fulfill the total credit hours required for the program.

Veterans

Aurora University participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program as well as other federal GI Bill® Benefits. The first step in utilizing veteran benefits is to apply through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Every veteran student receiving benefits is required to submit a copy of his/her DD-214-Member 4 to the Office of Financial Aid, the certifying office for veteran benefits. Additionally, if the Certificate of Eligibility (COE) is available, a copy of this should be submitted as well. For more information on utilizing veteran benefits at AU, please contact the Office of Financial Aid.

A person who has served in the United States Armed Forces and wishes to use veterans' benefits to attend Aurora University must contact the university's Veterans Affairs Certifying Official in the Office of Financial Aid. Veterans must follow the admission requirements and procedures outlined in this academic catalog. For certification of eligibility for education benefits under one of the public laws, application for

Veterans Administration benefits is made through the Veterans Affairs Certifying Official.

Aurora University will not take any of the four following actions toward any student using U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Post 9/11 G.I. Bill ® (Ch. 33), Veteran Readiness and Employment Service (VR&E) (Ch. 31), or Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA) (Ch. 35) benefits, while their payment from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is pending to Aurora University within 90 days after the date on which the school certifying officials (SCO) certifies tuition and fees:

- Prevent enrollment
- Assess a late penalty fee
- Require they secure alternative or additional funding
- Deny their access to any resources (access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities) available to other students who have satisfied their tuition and fee bills to the institution.

However, to qualify for this provision, such students may be required to:

- Produce the VA's Certificate of Eligibility by the first day of class
- Provide written request to be certified
- Provide additional information needed to properly certify the enrollment as described in other institutional policies (see our VA School Certifying Official for all requirements).

Articulations

Illinois Articulation Initiative

Aurora University participates in the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI), which eases the transfer process among many Illinois colleges and universities. The IAI is a major statewide, cooperative agreement among participating Illinois colleges and universities to facilitate successful transfer of course credits from one participating institution to another. A General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) has been defined by IAI, and if students follow the prescribed curriculum, the credits will generally satisfy General Education requirements at participating Illinois colleges and universities. Lower-division courses in some majors are also available through IAI.

Aurora University has articulation agreements with a number of community colleges. We encourage transfer students to refer to AU's Admission & Aid website (<https://aurora.edu/admission/transfer/>) to review transfer guides and transferability of courses.

Application for Admission

Students are encouraged to apply for admission well in advance of the term they wish to begin attending Aurora University. This is especially important if a student will be attending full time as a residential student, since residence hall space is limited. In the case of transfer students, all official transcripts must be received by the university before admission can be processed. Students should request to have an updated official transcript sent to Aurora University of any courses that were in progress at the time of application to Aurora University once the courses have concluded.

Application files must be completed no later than 10 working days prior to the first day of the term. Otherwise, admission to the university may be delayed until the next term, at the discretion of the Vice President for

Enrollment. Admission to specific professional programs may be limited; therefore, early application is recommended.

Term of Entry

The official terms of entry shall be summer, fall, and spring. Certain programs may further limit terms of entry. A degree-seeking undergraduate student whose first enrollment at Aurora University is in summer is governed by the academic catalog and regulations in effect for the fall term immediately following the Summer Session in which the student was first enrolled.

Students-at-large are not considered matriculated until the first term in which they are enrolled as a fully or conditionally accepted student. Provisionally or conditionally accepted students are considered to have entered in the first term of enrollment, regardless of provisional or conditional status.

Undergraduate Transfer of Credit

Credit earned at previous colleges with a grade of at least C- is transferable if it is nontechnical in nature, is comparable to credit offered at Aurora University, or is generally considered applicable to programs such as those offered by the university. Only credit earned at regionally accredited schools or at schools accredited by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) recognized accrediting bodies is considered for transfer through the normal process. Credit considered acceptable for transfer is listed in on a student's official Aurora University transcript. Transfer credit is applied to general degree requirements with the approval of the University Registrar and to the student's major in consultation with appropriate program faculty as needed, subject to the limitations of the university's residence requirement and in accordance with the Academic Catalog and the Regulations and Policies Catalog. Students should be aware that some programs of the university have time limits for the transfer of credit into the major, although there is no general time limit for the university. Grades earned at other schools are used to determine transferability of credit and as a criterion for transfer admission, but are not included in the student's Aurora University grade point average.

Credit Transfer for Students Holding Associate Degrees

Please see the "General Education Requirements for Transfer Students" (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/undergraduate/academic-regulations-procedures/general-education/#gen-ed-requirements-transfer>) section.

Nontraditional Sources of Credit

Learning achieved through the military or in other organized training programs may be credited in those cases where it has been evaluated by the American Council on Education (ACE). In addition, Aurora University accepts credit earned based on qualified testing results through the CLEP, DANTES, IB (HL), and AP testing programs. Aurora University also awards credit for Life and Vocational experience. A maximum of 68 semester hours of prior community college plus nontraditional credit is allowed for transfer students.

Graduate Transfer of Credit

Graduate level credit earned at regionally accredited institutions of higher education may be transferred to Aurora University and applied toward

a master’s or doctoral degree or other post-baccalaureate programs with the approval of the director of the program to which the student is admitted. Each graduate program limits the amount of credit that can be applied toward an Aurora University degree.

1. Graduate credit graded “B” or better may be transferred and applied to graduate programs at Aurora University with the approval of the Graduate Program Director. Coursework graded “Pass” or “Credit” may be transferred at the option of the Graduate Program Director. The individual graduate program shall establish the minimum grades required for acceptance of undergraduate prerequisite courses.
2. Graduate credit is transferred for application only to a specific graduate program; in the event that a student is subsequently admitted to a different graduate program, any graduate work completed at other institutions will be re-evaluated by the director of the new graduate program, and the transferred credit modified if necessary.
3. Transfer of credit once enrolled: Once the applicant has been accepted for enrollment in a graduate program at Aurora University, it is expected that he/she will complete all coursework for the degree or certificate at Aurora University. No coursework may be transferred to Aurora University after enrollment except upon prior, written approval of the Graduate Program Director or Academic Dean, and the receipt of an approved Petition for Prior Approval from the University Registrar, obtained prior to registration for courses to be transferred.

Financial Aid

Aurora University students may be eligible for financial aid from a variety of sources, including federal, state, institutional, and private organizations, in the forms of scholarships, grants, loans, and work study. In 2024–2025, the Office of Financial Aid assisted more than 6,100 undergraduate and graduate students.

Aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. To apply for financial aid, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>) as soon as possible beginning October 1 for maximum consideration of all financial aid programs. Financial aid must be awarded within the term of attendance.

The criteria used for awarding institutional financial aid are academic performance and financial need. Aid is available for both full-time and part-time undergraduate and graduate students (depending upon availability of funds). In addition to need-based financial aid, Aurora University offers several academic scholarships for both freshman and transfer undergraduate students.

The Office of Career Services assists in connecting students with on-campus employment and off-campus community service opportunities. Students working on-campus follow the current minimum wage guidelines with a maximum of 20 hours worked per week.

Tuition and Fees

Undergraduate

Tuition

Tuition Type	Tuition Cost per Semester
Full Time (12–18 semester hours)	\$14,800 per semester
Part Time (1–11 semester hours)	\$480 per semester hour
Over 18 Credit Hours	\$480 per semester hour

Summer Session	\$480 per semester hour
Travel Study/May Session	\$480 per semester hour
Adult Degree Completion	\$480 per semester hour
AU Online	\$480 per semester hour
University Center Fall 2024 cohort	\$465 per credit hour
University Center Cohort Fall 2025 cohort	\$480 per semester hour

The university may also assess fees for certain services, courses, field placements, or other ancillary expenses.

Room and Board

2025-2026 Academic Year (fall and spring semesters):

Aurora Board

Meals	+ Points	Cost per Semester
The Hungry Spartan 21	21 meals per week with 80 points per semester	\$3,120 per semester
Taste of AU 15	15 meals per week with 100 points per semester	\$2,910
Weekly Bite 10	10 meals per week with 100 points per semester	\$2,260
Blue Block 150	150 meals per semester with 175 points per semester	\$2,375
AU 80 (for Juniors and Seniors only)	80 meals per semester with 160 points per semester	\$1,110

Aurora Room

Type	Cost per Semester
Air-Conditioned Halls	
Centennial, Davis, Memorial, Don and Betty Tucker, and Watkins Halls: single with A/C	\$4,180
Centennial, Davis, Memorial, Don and Betty Tucker, and Watkins Halls: double with A/C	\$3,875
Centennial, Davis, Memorial, Don and Betty Tucker, and Watkins Halls: choice triple with A/C	3,220
Non-Air-Conditioned Residence Halls	
Jenks, East, Memorial and Wilkinson Halls: single without A/C	\$3,875
Jenks, East, Memorial and Wilkinson Halls: double without A/C	\$3,415
Suites	
Jenks West, Jenks East Halls: suite with A/C	\$4,180
Jenks West, Jenks East Halls: suite without A/C	\$3,875

General Fees

Fee Type	Fee Amount
Auditor Fee	50% of tuition
CLEP Credit Recording Fee	No charge
Course by Special Arrangement (CBSA)	\$130 per semester hour in addition to tuition
Deferred Payment Fee	\$10 per semester hour
International Affiliate Program Transfer Fee	\$375
Late Payment Fee (2 weeks past due)	\$100 (fall and spring); \$50 (summer)
Late Payment Fee (6th week of semester)	\$200 (fall and spring); \$100 (summer)
Late Payment Fee (10th week of semester)	\$300 (fall and spring); \$150 (summer)
Life and Vocational Assessment Fee	\$125 per semester hour (per course)
Nursing Pinning Fee	\$35
Parking Fine	\$20-25
Parking Permit	None
Pathways Program	\$3,100 per semester
Prior Approval Petition Fee (late submissions)	\$30
Regalia Fee - Bachelor's	\$110
Replacement I.D. Card Fee - Non-resident	\$25
Replacement I.D. Card Fee - Resident	\$35
Residence Hall Deposit - new students	\$100
Residence Hall Lost Key Fee	\$110 - \$310
Returned Check Fee	\$25
Student-at-Large tuition Deposit (non-refundable)	\$100 per semester
Technology Fee (per semester)	\$110 (full-time students) / \$80 (part-time students)
Technology Fee (online; per semester)	\$80
Transcript, Online Service	\$5
Transcript, While-You-Wait Service	\$25 for first copy; \$20 per additional copy
Tuition Deposit	\$100

Fees Charged per Course/Registration

Fee Type	Fee Amount
Anatomy and Physiology Course Fee	\$50
Aquarist Course Fee	\$345
Athletic Training Laboratory	\$50
Athletic Training Practicum	\$50
Autism Exercise Specialist Certificate Fee	\$423
BSW Field Placement Fee	\$50 per semester hour
Communications/Digital Marketing	\$50
Exercise Science Lab Fee	\$50

Finance Fee (FIN-4430)	\$80
Fine Arts (Art/Graphic Design/Photography)	\$50
Foundations K-12 Physical Education (PED-1510) Fee	\$80
Health Science Certification Course Lab Fee	\$50
Nursing Clinical Fee	\$55 per semester hour
Nursing Laboratory Fee	\$55 per semester hour
Nursing Testing Fees (BSN)	\$820
Outdoor Recreation Skills (REC-3500) Fee	\$275
Parks and Recreation Leadership Course Fee	\$200
Physical Education Lab (First Aid/CPR) Fee	\$35
Science Lab Fee (Biology/Chemistry/Physics)	\$50
Student Teaching Credential Technology Fee	\$220
Student Teaching Fee	\$150
Environmental Solutions Course Fee	\$50

Nursing testing fees are determined by contract with vendor and will be added to specific courses as outlined by the School of Nursing – Estimate \$600 (actual cost of exams passed through to students).

*Military Tuition Rates for AU Online Students Only - For active duty military, their spouses and dependents, National Guard members, and reservists, a grant equivalent to \$250 a credit hour for undergraduate and graduate courses. A 10% tuition discount for qualified veterans.

Note: Tuition and fees are subject to change without prior notice. Please contact the Student Accounts Office for questions or information on current tuition, fees, room, board and other rates.

Note: Tuition and housing deposits are refundable until May 1st for fall entrants. For spring entrants, tuition is refundable until the first day of the term and housing deposits are refundable until December 15th. Tuition deposits for Summer Session are refundable until the start date of the term.

Graduate Tuition

Aurora, AU Online, and University Center

Tuition Type	Tuition Cost per Semester
Student At Large	\$690 per semester hour
Graduate Business Programs (MBA, MPA, MSDM)	\$600 per semester hour
MSW, MSW/MBA, MSW/MPA, PEL, Addictions Programs	\$635 per semester hour
Doctoral (DSW) Program	\$750 per semester hour
Graduate Education Programs and Endorsements	\$505 per semester hour
Doctoral (EdD) Program	\$690 per semester hour
MS Athletic Training Program	\$700 per semester hour
Graduate Plus One Programs	\$10,250

Graduate 3+2 MS-ATR Program

(FA/SP)	\$9,950
(SU summer internship semester)	\$4,975
MS Exercises Science	\$565 per semester hour
Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)	\$740
District Cohorts - Tiered Pricing	
Option A	\$415 per semester hour
Option B	\$335 per semester hour
Option C	\$260 per semester hour

The university may also assess fees for certain services, courses, field placements, or other ancillary expenses.

General Fees

Fee Type	Fee Amount
Course by Special Arrangement (CBSA)	\$130 per semester hour
Deferred Payment Fee	\$10 per semester hour
Regalia Fee (master's)	\$135
Regalia Fee (doctoral)	\$160
Parking Fine	\$20-25
Parking Permit	None
Replacement I.D. Card Fee	\$25
Returned Check Fee	\$25
Auditor Fee	50% of tuition
Student-at-Large Tuition Deposit (non-refundable)	\$100
Transcript, Online	\$5
Transcript, While-You-Wait Service	\$25
Life and Vocational Assessment Fee	\$125 per semester hour

Fees Charged per Course/Registration

Fee Type	Fee Amount
Athletic Training Laboratory	\$50
Athletic Training Practicum	\$50
EdD Research Software Licensing	\$50
Nursing Elsevier Fee (MSN)	\$500/semester
Nursing Clinical Fee	\$55 per semester hour
Nursing Laboratory Fee	\$55 per semester hour
MSW Field Placement Fee	\$50 per semester hour
Student Teaching Fee (Aurora only)	\$150

*Military Tuition Rates for AU Online Students Only - For active duty military, their spouses and dependents, National Guard members, and reservists, a grant equivalent to \$250 a credit hour for undergraduate and graduate courses. A 10% tuition discount for qualified veterans.

Note: Tuition and fees are subject to change without prior notice. Please contact the Student Accounts Office for questions or information on current tuition, fees, room, board and other rates.

Student Services

Aurora Campus

Charles B. Phillips Library

Phillips Librar (<https://aurora.edu/academics/library/>)y is open 96 hours per week during the regular semester, with extended hours for the week leading up to final exams. The collection includes over 14,000 print volumes, access to over 170,000 eBooks, subscriptions to 60 databases which provide access to over 60,000 journals, access to over 72,000 streaming video and music files, and over 3,530 DVDs. The 13,000 sq. ft. space has seating for more than 250 students. The first floor encourages collaborative group work and popular among students are the rolling white boards that are used to practice presentations, work together on large assignments, and create mobile “rooms” for groups to gather. The second floor is dedicated to individual work, and students will find study carrels and a quieter environment to stay focused. There is a computer lab, and students have access to wireless network, printing and scanning. Student can reserve the Learning Lab which seats 12, and Room 204 which seats eight.

Campus Housing

Aurora University has seven on-campus residence halls — Centennial, Davis, Jenks, Memorial, Tucker, Watkins, and Wilkinson — with accommodations for approximately 700 residents in mostly double occupancy rooms. Priority for residential accommodations is given to undergraduate students. A limited number of single rooms are also available, with priority for these rooms given to returning residents. Some residence halls offer air conditioning. Tucker Hall - AU's newest residence hall - is the home of Aurora University's Pathways to Success program. Medical housing accommodation requests should be made with the Disability Resource Office and will be awarded based on space availability. Laundry facilities, fitness centers, community printers, and lounge areas with televisions are available in each residence hall.

Food Service

The university partners with Chartwells Food Service to provide service at three on-campus dining locations. Resident students may use their meal plan at both Tru Blu Dining and the Spartan Spot. Meal plan points may be used at Tru Blu Café. Tru Blu Dining, located in Alumni Hall, serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner during the week; brunch and dinner are served on the weekends and select holidays. Dining at this location is offered in an unlimited-servings, cafeteria-style format. The Spartan Spot serves hot and cold menu items including grilled items. Located in the lower level of Stephens Hall, the Spot is also a social gathering place and study area. Tru Blu Coffee, located on the first floor of the Institute for Collaboration, offers a variety of specialty coffee drinks, grab and go snacks and sandwiches and a selection of fresh baked goods.

Student ID Cards

Students are issued an Aurora University photo identification card after registration. The ID card is required for the use of university facilities and services. There is a fee for replacement of lost or damaged resident and commuter student ID cards. Student ID cards are available at Campus Public Safety office. AU Online students may print enrollment verification from Self-Service.

Campus Public Safety

The safety and security needs of the Aurora University campus are addressed by Campus Public Safety, a sworn police department. Led by experienced professionals who are university employees, the office

provides a variety of services including parking management and enforcement, distribution of safety information, safety training and a 24/7 on-campus presence. Through established relationships with local police and fire departments, the resources of these organizations are available to our campus community for safety preparedness.

Emergency Preparedness

In accordance with the 2008 federal Higher Education Act and the Illinois Campus Safety Enhancement Act, the Campus Emergency Operations Team, with representatives across various administrative areas, develops and implements a Campus Emergency Operations plan as well as Violence Prevention Plan, and regularly updates the plan to make changes necessary to protect the safety of the campus.

Athletics

Aurora University has a long history of excellence in intercollegiate athletics. A member of NCAA Division III, AU fields intercollegiate teams in football, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's basketball, baseball, men's and women's volleyball, softball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's indoor and outdoor track and field, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's golf, men's and women's ice hockey, men's and women's wrestling and women's bowling — often with championship results. About 40 percent of resident students and 20 percent of the student body participate in intercollegiate athletics. Additionally, club programs are offered in cheerleading, ACHA D2 men's hockey, and ACHA D3 men's hockey.

Wackerlin Center for Faith and Action

The Wackerlin Center is the campus heart for service learning opportunities, leadership development programming, and campus ministry. The center's mission is to support and cultivate a student's journey of discovering their vocation through serving, leading, and believing. The Wackerlin Center serves as a connecting point for volunteer opportunities in the surrounding community through our bi-annual Morning of Service, Volunteer Fox Valley service sign-up initiative, and alternative spring break service trips. Additionally, the Leadership Education And Development (LEAD) program at the center is an experiential leadership cohort designed to teach basic leadership principles to students. To support our students in other meaningful ways and practice the principles of servant leadership, the center is home to Libby's Place, an on-campus food pantry dedicated to serving students dealing with food insecurity, as well as the Spartan Attic for those students looking for professional clothing attire. The center also works alongside students to foster the spiritual needs of all, and cultivate understanding and insight on matters of faith and religion. Students of all faiths are equally welcomed in our common quest for meaning and purpose.

Campus Ministry

Campus ministries at AU are located in the Wackerlin Center for Faith and Action and coordinated through the University Chaplain. Student organizations that are reflective of campus ministry programming include Delight Ministries, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and Xperience Ministries. The University Chaplain works with these organizations and others, alongside AU faculty and staff as well as local community leaders, to offer worship services, small group discussions and celebrations, and observations of holy days for a variety of religious traditions. The chaplain is also available to talk with students about their spirituality through outreach events in the residence halls, common areas, and social events throughout campus,

including a vocation-themed film series and other various seasonal activities.

Counseling Services

Counseling Services helps students work through the occasional social and personal problems associated with orientation to college life. Some common concerns are depression, anxiety, stress management, family concerns, educational/academic concerns, substance abuse, interpersonal difficulties (e.g., conflict with friends, roommates, or romantic partners), or concerns related to gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, or culture. Contact Counseling Services for information on services available free of charge to students, as well as for referral information to services in the community.

Aurora University also offers TimelyCare - a virtual wellness provider that is available to all AU students at no cost. With the confidential services, students can talk to a medical professional, receive health coaching, access 24/7 crisis support and arrange ongoing counseling sessions with a licensed therapist.

Student Clubs and Organizations

Approximately 60 student clubs and organizations (<https://aurora.edu/student-life/activities/>) are established at Aurora University. Both undergraduate and graduate students, whether resident or commuting, are eligible to organize a student group and apply for recognition and funding.

Health Services

The mission of Health Services is to enhance student learning and success by promoting, protecting and restoring student health and well-being. Within the department, registered nurses are available on campus weekdays for clinical assessment and treatment, consultation and referral, and immunization compliance. In addition, prevention and health education services are offered. All services are free and confidential.

Aurora University also offers TimelyCare - a virtual wellness provider that is available to all AU students at no cost. With the confidential services students can talk to a medical professional, receive health coaching, access 24/7 crisis support and arrange ongoing counseling sessions with a licensed therapist.

The Hill Center for Student Success

The Kimberly and James Hill Center for Student Success prepares students for meaningful and successful careers and lives through vocational exploration and career development. Career Services advisors support students as they explore and develop their distinctive strengths and aspirations, and then guide them as they transition to the workplace, graduate or professional school, or to service. Programs offered at the center include resume and job search workshops, interview preparation, individual appointments, and career conversations with alumni and employers.

The Crouse Center for Academic Advising

The Crouse Center for Academic Advising offers advising and mentoring services to support undergraduate students at the Aurora location. Academic advisors in the Crouse Center provide guidance to students throughout their enrollment at the university, helping them develop a thorough understanding of their academic program requirements as they plan, build, and complete bachelor's or master's degrees reflecting their talents and aspirations. Academic advisors are the resource for students who have questions about their academic

progress (including adding or dropping courses, clarification regarding university rules and regulations, and graduation requirements).

Academic Support Center

The Academic Support Center (ASC) offers a variety of instructional resources to improve student success by providing high-quality, academic support to develop more engaged, confident, and skillful learners. Content-specific tutoring is available in a number of disciplines offered by professional staff and peer tutors supporting undergraduate classes. Weekly recitations, peer-assisted study sessions, one-on-one appointments, and drop-in programs are designed to help students achieve academic success. Writing specialists are available to consult with registered AU students at all levels. Through one-on-one, in-person or online appointments, staff members are available to guide students through the entire writing process (i.e., brainstorming, research, drafting, editing, proofreading, revision, and documentation). All services provided by the Academic Support Center are free to all university students.

Disability Resource Office

The Disability Resource Office (DRO) is designated to ensure access to education at Aurora University for all students with disabilities as mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Its goal is to create learning environments that are accessible, equitable, inclusive, and empower students to participate in every aspect of academic and campus life. Aurora University is committed to compliance with all applicable federal laws regarding reasonable accommodation to address the environmental barriers. Students are responsible for self-identifying, requesting accommodations, and providing required documentation to the Disability Resource Office to determine eligibility. If a student requires individualized assistance devices or private health care personnel or services, the student is financially responsible.

Any student who believes the decisions related to the approval of accommodations are not reasonable, may appeal the determination following the Grievance Procedure below:

Grievance Procedure: In consultation with the Dean of Students, the Disability Resource Office, and the student's academic dean, the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs will review the case material and work to resolve the student's complaint within 30 days.

The Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs may then direct the student back to the Disability Resource Office for follow-up.

University Center at McHenry County College

Academic Support

University Center students can access free professional writing support for all courses at all levels via the Aurora campus Academic Support Center (ASC). Subject tutoring for many undergraduate courses is also available via Zoom. To schedule an appointment, go to Academic SupportNet on Okta at <https://aurora.mywconline.com> (<https://aurora.mywconline.com/>). In addition, www.Tutor.com (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/student-services/file:///C:/Users/mtarling/Documents/1%20DEAN%202019/Faculty/Syl%20Guidelines/www.Tutor.com>) is available for select access math and physics courses 24/7. Students must access www.Tutor.com (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/student-services/file:///C:/Users/mtarling/Documents/1%20DEAN%202019/Faculty/Syl>

www.Tutor.com) via their Moodle course shell for the free service provided by AU.

Library Services

Access to high quality scholarship in academic journals, magazines, eBooks and print books is provided through the AU libraries. Find these resources and other available services through the AU library website (<http://aurora.edu/library> (<http://aurora.edu/library/>)). Librarians can help you research and assist with obtaining articles and books. They are available for all students by chat at (<http://aurora.libanswers.com/>), text (630-796-7615), phone (630-844-7534), or by an online appointment with a librarian <http://libguides.aurora.edu/appointments> (<http://libguides.aurora.edu/appointments/>). Services for University Center campus students are available through the Aurora campus, including courier delivery of materials.

Office of Emergency Preparedness

The mission of the Aurora University Office of Emergency Preparedness is to lessen the effects of disaster on the lives and property of the students, employees, and visitors of University Center location through planning, coordination, and support of emergency management preparation. In July of 2008, President Bush signed the Higher Education Act. Pursuant to that, campuses are mandated to enhance the safety and security of students, faculty, and staff by implementing a Campus Emergency Operation Plan. Through the Office of Emergency Preparedness, the University Center location continues to update its preparedness plans and policies taking advantage of the most recent best practices. At Aurora University, everyone is responsible for creating a safe environment, so it is important for students to report suspicious or threatening objects, people, or conditions to Campus Public Safety.

Academic Regulations and Procedures

All undergraduate and graduate studies are governed by the university-wide academic policies, regulations, and procedures described in this catalog. Specific undergraduate majors and graduate programs may have academic policies, regulations, and procedures that are stricter than the overall university academic policies, regulations, and procedures.

- Undergraduate Degree Requirements (p. 20)
- General Education (p. 20)
- Simultaneous Undergraduate Multiple Degrees and Multiple Majors (p. 22)
- Additional Bachelors Degree (p. 13)
- Degree Distinctions (p. 23)
- Graduate Degree Requirements (p. 23)
- Time Limit for Completion of Graduate Degrees (p. 23)
- Code of Academic Integrity (p. 23)
- Chosen Name and Pronoun Policy (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/academic-regulations-procedures/chosen-name/>)
- Classroom Conduct Policy (p. 25)
- Course Enrollment and Classroom Environment Policy (p. 25)
- Undergraduate Academic Standards (p. 26)
- Graduate Academic Standards (p. 26)
- Application of Academic Regulations (p. 26)
- Registration (p. 27)

- Petitions (p. 29)
- Special Educational Experiences and Credit (p. 29)
- Attendance Policy (p. 31)
- Academic Leave of Absence (p. 33)
- Medical Leave of Absence (p. 33)
- Military Accommodation (p. 36)
- Withdrawal (p. 37)
- Transfer and Nontraditional Sources of Credit (p. 37)
- Declaration of Major (p. 42)
- Regulations Governing Majors and Minors (p. 42)
- Academic Measurement and Evaluation (p. 42)
- Grades (p. 42)
- Transcripts: Regulations Governing Issuance (p. 46)
- Undergraduate Student Classification and Definition (p. 47)
- Graduate Student Classification and Definition (p. 47)
- Graduation Policies and Procedures (p. 47)
- Awarding Posthumous Degrees (p. 48)
- Financial Aid Rights and Responsibilities (p. 48)
- Satisfactory Academic Progress Procedures (p. 50)
- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as Amended FERPA (p. 52)

- Satisfactory participation in the junior-year mentoring and assessment process designed to guide students to successful completion of their degree and to encourage planning for next steps beyond graduation. (IDS-3500 Junior Mentoring Program I and IDS-3550 Junior Mentoring Program II - *Not required for ADC or AU Online students but may be designated electives for AU Online students admitted with fewer than 15 hours of transfer credit.*)
- Distribution Requirements
Students will complete one approved course¹ from each of the following categories:
 - Artistic Literacy
 - Cultural Literacy
 - Human Inquiry
 - Scientific Inquiry

In addition to the above, ADC and Online students will also complete one approved course¹ from the following category:

- Discovery and Reflection

¹ Only courses that are approved to meet the distribution requirement can be used toward this requirement. See the list of approved courses (p. 20) for available options. Courses taken to meet distribution requirements are 4 semester hours apiece, with the following exceptions:

- An approved transfer course of at least 2.50 semester hours can be used to satisfy a distribution requirement.
- Courses with co-requisite laboratory components may be used to satisfy a distribution requirement, provided that the student successfully complete both the three-credit-hour course and the single-credit-hour lab component.

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

A student who graduates from Aurora University with a baccalaureate degree will have met the following requirements:

1. Completion of all requirements for an approved major (with no grades lower than "C").
2. Overall completion of at least 120 semester hours of coursework with a GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale (a course may be utilized only once in application toward a degree requirement, unless otherwise noted in the academic regulations). The 120 semester hours of coursework must include:
 - At least 52 semester hours completed at a senior college.
 - Residency Requirement - At least 30 semester hours completed at Aurora University, including the last 24 semester hours in the degree, and including at least 18 semester hours in the major. (Portfolio assessment credit, life and vocational experience credit, off-campus experience credit, examination credit, participation credit, and block credit, shall not count toward the residency requirement).
 - Upper-Division Requirement - A minimum of 30 semester hours numbered 3000 or above. Of these 30 semester hours, 15 semester hours must lie within the major and 15 semester hours must be completed at Aurora University.
3. Completion of all General Education requirements (with no grades lower than "C"), as follows:
 - Quantitative and Formal Reasoning competency requirement (p. 21)
 - ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing
 - IDS-1200 Discover What Matters or IDS-3040 Global Justice
 - IDS-1150 First Year Experience - *Not required for Transfer or AU Online students*)

General Education

Courses Approved for General Education Distribution Credit

Catalog 2025-2026

Artistic Literacy

Code	Title	Credits
ART-1020	80 Masterpieces	4
ART-2100	Introduction to Drawing	4
ART-2540	Art and Power	4
ART-2620	Art and Death	4
COM-2300	Critical Analysis of Film and Television	4
ENG-2210	Poetry	4
ENG-2250	Novel	4
ENG-3185	Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults	4
MST-1110	Introduction to Museum Studies	4
MUS-1550	Exploring Music	4
MUS-1560	The History of Rock and Roll	4
MUS-2720	Vocal Jazz Ensemble	1
PHL-2700	Art and Philosophy	4
THE-1200	Introduction to Theatre	4

THE-1300	Introduction to Acting	4
THE-2510	Design for the Stage	4

Cultural Literacy

Code	Title	Credits
ASL-3050	Deaf Culture	4
BST-2010	Introduction to Black Studies	4
HIS-1200	American History I (to 1877)	4
HIS-1210	American History II (since 1877)	4
HIS-1300	World History I (to 1500)	4
HIS-1400	World History II (since 1500)	4
HIS-2370	Black American History I (to 1877)	4
HIS-2380	Black American History II (since 1877)	4
HIS-2620	Russian History to 1917	4
HIS-2630	Russian and Soviet History Since 1917	4
LTS-1200	Introduction to Latino Cultural Studies	4
NUR-1214	Professional Nursing, Culture, and Health Care	4
REL-1100	Comparing Scriptures	4
REL-1400	Spirituality Today	4
REL-2060	Exploring Religion	4
SOC-2150	Cultural Anthropology	4
SOC-3350	Race, Ethnicity, and Culture	4
SPN-1120	Elementary Spanish I	4
SPN-2200	Intermediate Spanish I	4

Human Inquiry

Code	Title	Credits
COM-2160	Human Communication and Relationships	4
CRJ-1010	Introduction to Criminal Justice System	4
ECN-2030	Principles of Economics	4
ENV-1000	Introduction to Environmental Studies	4
LTS-1300	Latinos and Latinas in the United States	4
PHL-1100	Problems of Philosophy	4
PHL-2100	Ethics	4
PHL-2250	Origins of Greek Philosophy	4
PHL-2400	The Good Life?	4
PHL-3500	Philosophy of Love and Sex	4
PSC-1300	Introduction to U.S. Government	4
PSY-1100	General Psychology	4
PSY-3350	Child and Adolescent Development	4
SOC-1100	Introduction to Society	4
SOC-3480	Globalization and Social Change	4

Scientific Inquiry

Code	Title	Credits
BIO-2200	Humans and the Environment	4
CHM-1200 & 1200Z	Principles of Chemistry and Principles of Chemistry Laboratory	4
CHM-1310 & 1310Z	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry I Laboratory	4
CSC-1010	Introduction to Computer Science	4
HAS-1200	Introduction to Animal Science	4

HLS-2650	Essentials of Anatomy and Physiology	4
NSM-1400	Earth and Space Science	4

Discovery and Reflection (ADC and Online students only)

Code	Title	Credits
ACC-2010	Principles of Financial Accounting	4
BUS-1020	Foundations of Management	4
SWK-2500	Survey of Contemporary Social Work	4

Ways to Satisfy the Quantitative and Formal Reasoning Requirement

As part of the General Education program, students will demonstrate quantitative and formal reasoning competency by coursework, or by performance on a university mathematical examination, or based on their ACT or SAT mathematics subscore. The General Education requirement may therefore be satisfied by any of the following:

1. ACT mathematics subscore of 25 or higher, SAT mathematics subscore of 580 or higher (for tests taken prior to March 2016), or SAT mathematics subscore of 600 or higher (for tests taken after March 2016)
2. A grade of "C" or better or transcribed credit in one of the following courses:

Code	Title	Credits
FIN-2010	Personal Finance	4
MTH-1030	Dealing With Data	4
MTH-1100	College Algebra	4
MTH-1310	Precalculus	4
MTH-2100	Statistics	4
MTH-2210	Calculus and Analytic Geometry I	4
PHL-1200	Logic	4
3. A grade of "C" or better in a course within the students' academic major program that has been approved to meet the quantitative and formal reasoning requirement.
4. Elementary Education, Early Childhood Special Education with Bilingual/ESL, and Special Education majors meet the quantitative and formal reasoning requirement via MTH-1210 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I, MTH-1220 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers II, and NSM-2500 Integrated Mathematics and Science for Teachers.
5. Demonstrated competency via an AU mathematical examination (students may earn a maximum of four credit hours total through this process).

Additional General Education Course Planning Considerations

1. A new first-year student is expected to take IDS-1200 Discover What Matters and IDS-1150 First Year Experience in the first semester at Aurora University. All students will take IDS-3500 Junior Mentoring Program I/IDS-3550 Junior Mentoring Program II during their third year at Aurora University.
2. First-year students wishing to meet the ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing requirement via CLEP or AP credit must have official score results submitted to the Office of the Registrar prior to the beginning of their first term of attendance, or registration in

ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing will be required during the first year of study.

3. A single course may be used to satisfy a major requirement and a General Education requirement.
4. No single course may be used to satisfy more than one General Education requirement.
5. New transfer students will be advised as to the best timing to take any required IDS courses (see "General Education Requirements for Transfer Students" (p. 22)). They will otherwise follow the progression outlined above.
6. Transfer students entering without having completed an English Composition course equivalent to ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing must complete the requirement as early in their Aurora University career as possible. Transfer students who have transferred in the equivalent of ENG-2010 Introduction to Research Writing need not take ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing. (No credit will be given for ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing.) Under no circumstances should a transfer student earn more than nine semester hours at Aurora University or accumulate a total of 84 semester hours toward graduation without enrolling in ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing if this General Education requirement has not already been met by transfer credit, CLEP credit, or AP credit. Transfer students wishing to meet the ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing requirement via CLEP are required to take the examination during their first term of attendance. Once a transfer student has enrolled at Aurora University, the ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing requirement must be met via CLEP and/or appropriate Aurora University coursework.

General Education Requirements for Transfer Students

1. General Education requirements for students who hold an associate's (AA/AS) degree from a regionally accredited college or who have completed the IAI core or who have 60 or more hours of transfer credit accepted by Aurora University:
 - a. Participation in the junior-year mentoring, and assessment process (IDS-3500 Junior Mentoring Program I and IDS-3550 Junior Mentoring Program II).
 - b. Completion of the ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing and quantitative and formal reasoning requirements through appropriate transfer credit or at Aurora University.
 - c. Completion of IDS-3040 Global Justice (online General Studies students only).
2. General Education requirements for students who have at least 30 but fewer than 60 semester hours of transfer credit accepted by Aurora University (without having completed an associate's degree or the IAI core):
 - a. Participation in the junior-year mentoring, and assessment process (IDS-3500 Junior Mentoring Program I and IDS-3550 Junior Mentoring Program II)
 - b. Completion of the ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing and quantitative and formal reasoning requirements through appropriate transfer credit or at Aurora University
 - c. Must demonstrate that the distribution requirements have been met through appropriate transfer credit or at Aurora University (a transfer course equating to at least 2.50 semester hours will satisfy a category)
 - d. Completion of IDS-3040 Global Justice (online General Studies students only)

3. Requirements for students who have fewer than 30 semester hours of transfer credit accepted by Aurora University:
 - a. All General Education requirements apply
4. Requirements for students who hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college:
 - a. There are no General Education requirements for a student holding a baccalaureate degree.
5. Any student transferring in credit but deemed by Admissions as a "First Time Freshman" is required to take IDS-1150 First Year Experience (does not apply to online students).

Simultaneous Undergraduate Multiple Degrees and Multiple Majors

1. "Multiple degrees" are defined as two or more degrees bearing different general titles as printed on the diploma. Four undergraduate degrees are currently offered by Aurora University: BA, BS, BSN, and BSW.
2. Multiple degrees may be awarded upon completion of all requirements relevant to both degrees, provided that at least 24 semester hours in each degree are not present in the other. Separate diplomas are provided for each degree; at commencement the student will process during the ceremony based on what the student considers to be the primary degree.
3. "Multiple majors" are defined as two or more major disciplinary areas within the same general degree title (e.g., BA in English vs. BA in History). When seeking more than one major, students must declare a primary and secondary major. Students pursuing the BA in General Studies may not double major.
4. Multiple majors may be earned by completion of all requirements for both majors, provided that at least 18 semester hours included in each major are not present in the other. A single diploma is issued showing the general degree title. Multiple majors are shown on the transcript.
5. A BA and BS degree in the same major may not be awarded simultaneously. In those disciplines where both degrees are offered, a graduate holding one degree may earn the second degree for award at a later graduation date by completing all additional requirements for the second degree, provided that at least 24 semester hours in each degree are not present in the other.

Additional Bachelor's Degrees

Additional Bachelor's Degrees for Graduates of Other Schools and Alumni of Aurora University not Continuously Enrolled

Holders of baccalaureate degrees from other regionally accredited schools may earn an additional bachelor's degree from Aurora University by completing the balance of the coursework required for the additional degree provided that at least 24 semester hours in each degree is not present in the other, meeting the university's residence requirement (30 semester hours) including the last 24 semester hours in the degree, and by completing an approved major that contains a minimum of 18 semester hours not included in the major of the first degree. All General

Education requirements are deemed to have been met by virtue of completion of the first degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree from Aurora University may earn an additional bachelor's degree by completing the balance of the coursework required for the additional degree provided that at least 24 semester hours in each degree is not present in the other, completing the last 24 semester hours in the degree at Aurora University, and by completing an approved major that contains a minimum of 18 semester hours not included in the major of the first degree. All General Education requirements are deemed to have been met by virtue of completion of the first degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree from Aurora University may complete the courses required for an additional major within two years of the conferral of the latest undergraduate degree, by completing the balance of courses required for any approved major with the same general degree classification as the latest degree conferred (BA/BS), which contains a minimum of 18 semester hours not included in the required courses for the major of the latest conferred degree. A minimum of 18 hours required for the additional major must have been or be completed at AU. No credit by examination or competency credit may be applied toward the balance of required courses. Completion of the requirements of the additional major will be noted on the transcript. Financial aid may not be available for the completion of additional major requirements after an undergraduate degree is conferred.

In all cases, coursework from the student's first degree or major may only be applied toward the new major or the major of the new degree upon approval of the major department or program faculty.

Degree Distinctions

There is often a distinction between the Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS) degrees. In general, a BA is typically awarded for degrees in the liberal arts and social sciences, with a goal of providing a well-rounded education. A BS degree is typically awarded for completing degrees that emphasize mathematics and science, with a focus on courses required for professional or pre-professional programs.

Additionally, there are widely recognized degrees for some disciplines, such as the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degrees.

For the graduate degree programs, in general, a Master of Arts (MA) is typically awarded for non-science degrees and a Master of Science (MS) degree is typically awarded for completing degrees that emphasize mathematics and science. Additionally, there are widely recognized degrees for some disciplines, such as the Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Public Administration (MPA), Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), and Master of Social Work (MSW) degrees.

Graduate Degree Requirements

Graduate Degree Requirements

1. Completion of all coursework specified by the graduate program.
2. Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or higher if specified by the graduate program.
3. Submission of all pre-graduation materials required by the graduate program.
4. Acceptance of thesis or other required final project by the graduate program.

5. Submission of two copies of approved thesis or project in a specified form together with payment of binding fee where applicable.
6. Submission of Application for Graduation and payment of any graduation fees assessed by the university.
7. In the case of certification programs, submission of all governmental forms.
8. Residency Requirement: A minimum of 25% percent of the total credits required for the completion of the graduate degree or post-baccalaureate certificate or credential must be earned at Aurora University. Individual programs may establish more extensive residency requirements, including requirements that specific coursework be completed at Aurora University.

Time Limit for Completion of Graduate Degrees

Time Limit for Completion of Graduate Degrees

1. Students must complete all requirements for the master's degree on or before five years from the official acceptance date into the program (six years for the EdD program).
2. Any student not completing all degree requirements on or before the deadline in #1 will be administratively dropped from the program unless a petition for extension has been filed with the Program Chair no later than the completion deadline.
3. Petitions for extension are reviewed by the Program Chair in consultation with the program faculty.
4. Approved petitions for extension may include provisions for repeating coursework, additional coursework, or other requirements for completion of the graduate degree after the original deadline, at the option of the program faculty.
5. An extension of the deadline may be granted only once and then for a maximum of two years.
6. Individual programs may establish more restrictive limits for initial and extended time deadlines for completion.

Code of Academic Integrity

Code of Academic Integrity

Policy Statement F1: Code of Academic Integrity

Aurora University's core values include integrity and ethical behavior. A community of learners, Aurora University students and faculty share responsibility for academic honesty and integrity. The university expects students to do their own academic work. In addition, it expects active participation and equitable contributions of students involved in group assignments.

Registration at Aurora University requires adherence to the following Code of Academic Integrity (henceforth, the Code). Academic programs, colleges, and departments within the university may have additional guidelines regarding academic integrity violations that supplement this Code.

In essence, this Code and any internal standards supplementing it prohibit dishonest and unethical behavior in the context of academic pursuit, regardless of intent.

Unacceptable conduct includes, without limitation:

Cheating - Cheating is obtaining, using or attempting to use unauthorized materials or information (e.g., notes, texts, or study aids) or help from another person (e.g., looking at another student's test paper, or communicating with others during an exam via talking, notes, texts, electronic devices or other study aids, unauthorized use of a cell phone or the internet), in any work submitted for evaluation for academic credit. This includes exams, quizzes, laboratory assignments, papers, presentations, and/or other assignments. Other examples include altering a graded work after it has been returned, then submitting the work for re-grading; unauthorized collaboration on an academic assignment; or submitting identical or highly similar papers for credit in more than one course without prior permission from the course instructors.

Fabrication - Fabrication is falsification or invention of data; falsification of information, citations, or bibliographic references in any academic work (e.g., falsifying references in a paper); or altering, forging, or falsifying any academic record or other university document.

Plagiarism - Plagiarism is representing someone else's work (including words and ideas) as one's own or providing materials for such a representation. Examples include submitting a paper or other work that is in whole or part the work of another; failing to cite references; presenting paraphrased material that is not acknowledged and cited; or failing to use quotation marks where material is used verbatim. (See under "Cheating" (p. 24) submitting identical or highly similar papers for credit in more than one course without prior permission from the course instructors is a violation.)

Obtaining an Unfair Advantage - This is (a) stealing, reproducing, circulating, or otherwise gaining access to examination materials before the time authorized by the instructor; (b) retaining, possessing, or using previously given examination materials where those materials clearly indicate that they were intended to be returned to the instructor at the conclusion of the examination; (c) stealing, destroying, defacing, or concealing library materials with the purpose of depriving others of their use; (d) intentionally obstructing or interfering with another student's academic work; or (e) otherwise undertaking activity with the purpose of creating or obtaining an unfair academic advantage over other students' academic work.

Unauthorized Access to Computerized Records or Systems - This is unauthorized review of computerized academic or administrative records or systems; viewing or altering computer records; modifying computer programs or systems; releasing or dispensing information gained via unauthorized access; or interfering with the use or availability of computer systems or information.

Identity Fraud - Identity fraud involves the act of impersonating another person, or any other form of identity fraud, in any work submitted for evaluation for academic credit. Examples include the submission of work under the login credentials of someone else, or misrepresenting one's own identity during in-person work. Identity fraud will be processed as a second or egregious offense, which may lead to dismissal from the university. Students wishing to appeal the offense should follow the process identified under a Second, Egregious, or Referred Violation, below.

Facilitating Violations of Academic Integrity - This is (a) helping or attempting to assist another in violating the Code (for example, allowing another to copy from one's test or allowing others to use one's work as their own); or (b) providing false information in connection with any inquiry regarding academic integrity. Allowing or facilitating the

impersonation of oneself, or any like form of such identity fraud, in any work submitted for evaluation for academic credit is deemed to be a facilitation offense which will be processed as a second or egregious offense, and may lead to dismissal from the university.

Note: Examples provided are illustrative only and are not inclusive. Other behaviors, not exemplified, may constitute violations of the Code. The above is in part adapted from "Issues and Perspectives on Academic Integrity," a pamphlet distributed by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

Policy Statement F2: Procedures to Follow When a Violation of Academic Integrity is Identified

Suspected cases of academic integrity violation should be reported to the course instructor, the administration of the school or department under whose jurisdiction the suspected offense took place, or to the Academic Affairs office (and will be addressed using the procedures set forth in this Policy Statement and Policy Statement F3 below (p. 25)). Students notified by the faculty member, Office of Academic Affairs, or University Registrar of a suspected academic integrity violation **may not change their registration in a course in which the charge is pending or in which a finding of violation has been made.** Students who voluntarily withdraw from the university while an academic integrity violation is pending are not deemed to be in good standing and may not return to the university until a pending violation is resolved.

First Violation: A faculty member who identifies a violation of the Academic Integrity Code shall follow these procedural steps. In most cases, internal proceedings regarding a first violation will conclude with the procedural steps that follow:

1. The faculty member will report the violation to the Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar via the official electronic reporting system. This report will include a written summary of the violation; **the consequences and sanctions resulting from the violation consistent with the policies stated within the course syllabus;** and any interactions with the student regarding the violation. The faculty member will also provide to the Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar any material evidence of the violation, if such evidence exists. This material is placed in an academic violation file identified to the particular student and maintained with confidentiality by the Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar.
2. Within five business days of receipt of the violation, the Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar will confirm the violation to be a first violation and eligible for appeal under Policy Statement F3 (below) (p. 25). If, in the judgment of the Office of Academic Affairs, in consultation with the reporting faculty, the violation is deemed to have been egregious, or if the violation is a second violation, the hearing procedure set forth below in the section entitled "Second or Referred Violation" shall be used. The faculty member shall be so notified.
3. The Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar will then send the student an electronic notification informing the student that a violation has been reported and advising the student of future sanctions on the part of the university in the event of subsequent violation. The electronic notification also shall inform the student of the appeals process for academic integrity violations (see Policy Statement F3). In the event that the student appeals successfully under Policy Statement F3 (p. 25), the faculty member's allegation shall be removed from the academic integrity violation file.

4. The contents of the academic integrity violation file will not be shared with faculty members and staff, with the exception of members of the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee in the event that the student appears before that body or faculty and administrators participating in an appeals process. The academic integrity violation file shall be destroyed upon the completion of the degree by the student.

Second, Egregious, or Referred Violation: In the event that a second violation is reported to the Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar (or a violation is referred for hearing as set forth above), the Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar shall inform the student of the allegation via electronic notification. This electronic notification shall inform the student that contact must be made with the Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar within 10 business days from the date of the electronic notification to arrange a hearing before the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee. Failure to do so shall be taken as acknowledgement that a violation has occurred and shall result in disciplinary action up to and/or including dismissal from the university (as determined by the Office of Academic Affairs). The student shall be permitted to attend class and other university-sponsored activities during the 10 business days following the electronic notification sent by the Office of Academic Affairs or University Registrar to the student or while a hearing is pending, unless such permission is revoked due to unusual circumstances, as determined by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The university reserves the discretion, however, to withhold degrees or honors or postpone student graduation pending resolution of an ongoing violation.

The Committee shall determine whether the violation occurred. The jurisdictional dean or executive director shall not participate in the hearing. If the committee finds that a violation occurred, the student shall be immediately disciplined or dismissed from the university. If the committee finds that the violation did not occur, the allegation shall not be reflected on the student's record and documentation regarding the hearing process shall be maintained confidentially in the Office of Academic Affairs.

Note: As set forth above, the committee hearing procedure normally initiated by the second academic integrity violation may be triggered in the event of a first violation at the discretion of the Office of Academic Affairs. This would generally occur only in cases that are particularly egregious. The term "egregious" typically means that the act is both premeditated and, by itself, potentially damaging to the academic culture of the university if not immediately redressed. Examples of egregious academic integrity violations include, but are not limited to, misrepresenting a degree-completion work like a doctoral dissertation, master's thesis, or senior capstone project as one's own; committing an academic integrity violation intended to cause harm to another person or group; committing a crime while violating the academic integrity code, with material gain as the intended result; and others. Egregious behavior may also occur when a student commits academic integrity violations in multiple courses. This list of potentially egregious violations is illustrative and not exhaustive. Other behaviors may also apply, and the discretion to determine whether violations should be addressed using this hearing procedure (rather than the First Violation procedure set forth above) resides with the Office of Academic Affairs and the faculty member.

Policy Statement F3: Appeals Process for Academic Integrity Code Violations

First Violation: A student who believes that a violation of the Academic Integrity Code has not in fact occurred may appeal any such finding to

the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee. The student has one week from the date indicated on the electronic notification of Finding and Sanction to inform the University Registrar in writing of the appeal. The Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee will review all relevant materials. The committee will meet with the student who will present his/her response to the academic integrity violation charge(s), or will rely upon written documentation provided by the student in cases where the student does not appear in person. The committee may also question the faculty member who reported the integrity violation.

The Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee shall make one of two decisions:

1. violation of the Code took place and the report remains in the academic integrity violation file; or
2. violation of the Code is not substantiated and the faculty member's allegation shall be removed from the academic integrity violation file.

The decision of the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee shall be final. Imposed sanctions will be reviewed, and communicated to the student by the Office of Academic Affairs.

Appeal Procedure for Committee Decisions Resulting in Dismissal from University

A student who has already had a hearing before the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee and been dismissed from the university may appeal the decision to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. This step must be completed in the form of a written request to the Provost within one calendar week after the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee has informed the student of its decision. The Provost will appoint two faculty members to serve with the Provost on an ad hoc committee working to review the student's appeal. This committee and the Provost will review all relevant materials and meet with the student and others, as the ad hoc committee deems necessary. The decision of this committee either to uphold or overturn the decision of the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee shall be final. The ad hoc committee will then report back to the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee on the final decision and its reasoning.

Re-admission to the University

A student who has been dismissed for violation of the Code of Academic Integrity shall not be re-admitted to the university. The student's transcript shall indicate that the student was "dismissed with cause."

Classroom Conduct Policy

Students enrolled in Aurora University courses have the right to learn in an environment where all individuals are treated equitably and with respect. Behaviors in class that interfere with the learning experience are not permitted. Disruptive or disrespectful behaviors may result in dismissal from the class by the instructor. Continued problems will be reported to the Academic Dean and/or the Dean of Students for further action. Course instructors may also impose class-related sanctions on the offending student.

Course Enrollment and Classroom Environment Policy

Aurora University classroom conduct requirements are intended to establish and promote the best possible learning environment for all Aurora University students. To that end, students are expected to treat

each other with civility and respect. Within that context, Aurora University recognizes that within an institution of higher learning, classroom or other academic discussions may delve into topics whose themes are controversial, adult-oriented, complex, or otherwise inappropriate for people not versed in academic dialog, including children.

For this, and other reasons, students enrolled in a course at Aurora University may not be accompanied to class by adult guests who are not registered for the class without the advanced consent of the course instructor. Further, students may never bring minor children into the classroom during class meeting time.

Undergraduate Academic Standards

(Effective beginning Fall 2025)

This Undergraduate Academic Standards Policy applies to warning and dismissal of undergraduate students from the university for reasons of academic performance as reflected in the student's Grade Point Average (GPA). Discipline or dismissal for violations of university conduct standards will be separately addressed under other university rules and regulations. This policy does not supersede or serve as a substitute for the university's grade appeal process. Students seeking to appeal individual grades must use that process and may not revisit individual grades using the following policy.

Good Academic Standing

Each undergraduate student's academic progress is reviewed at the end of each 16-week semester in which they have completed classes. Undergraduate students with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 **or greater** on a 4.0 scale are in good academic standing at the university.

Undergraduate students majoring in certain programs may be expected to achieve higher academic standards. These standards are available to students through the office of each program.

Academic Warning and Dismissal

Undergraduate students whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 are placed on academic warning.

While on academic warning, undergraduate students must earn either a cumulative or a subsequent semester GPA of at least 2.0, otherwise they will be dismissed from the university due to academic performance.

Undergraduate students remain on academic warning until they earn a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.0, at which time the warning is removed from their record.

Dismissal Appeal

Undergraduate students dismissed from the university due to academic performance may appeal for reinstatement for the next semester. Instructions for submitting the appeal will be communicated to students at the time of their dismissal. The appeal will be reviewed by the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Returning to Aurora University

Undergraduate students who do not appeal their dismissal, or whose appeal is denied, are eligible to apply for reinstatement to the university after one semester has elapsed. To apply for reinstatement,

undergraduate students must complete an application and reinstatement form. This form will be reviewed by the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Graduate Academic Standards

(Effective beginning Fall 2025)

This Graduate Academic Standards Policy applies to warning and dismissal of graduate students from the university for reasons of academic performance as reflected in the student's Grade Point Average (GPA). Discipline or dismissal for violations of university conduct standards will be separately addressed under other university rules and regulations. This policy does not supersede or serve as a substitute for the university's grade appeal process. Students seeking to appeal individual grades must use that process and may not revisit individual grades using the following policy.

Good Academic Standing

Each graduate student's academic progress is reviewed at the end of each 16-week semester in which they have completed classes. Graduate students with a cumulative program grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 **or greater** on a 4.0 scale are in good academic standing at the university.

Graduate students majoring in certain programs may be expected to achieve higher academic standards. These standards are available to students through the office of each program.

Academic Warning and Dismissal

Graduate students whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 are placed on academic warning.

While on academic warning, graduate students must earn either a cumulative or a subsequent semester GPA of at least 3.0, otherwise they will be dismissed from the university due to academic performance.

Graduate students remain on academic warning until they earn a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.0, at which time the warning is removed from their record.

Dismissal Appeal

Graduate students dismissed from the university due to academic performance may appeal for reinstatement for the next semester. Instructions for submitting the appeal will be communicated to students at the time of their dismissal. The appeal will be reviewed by the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee and one program representative designated by the jurisdictional dean, whose decision shall be final.

Returning to Aurora University

Graduate students who do not appeal their dismissal, or whose appeal is denied, are eligible to apply for reinstatement to the university after one semester has elapsed. To apply for reinstatement, graduate students must complete an application and reinstatement form. This form will be reviewed by the Academic Conduct and Integrity Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Application of Academic Regulations

Aurora University has traditionally allowed students to graduate under the degree requirements in effect when they entered the university

if course offerings allow and if enrollment is continuous from point of entry to graduation. The university does retain the right, however, to modify the academic policies, procedures, and regulations for all students. Modifications in policies, procedures, and regulations normally become effective at the beginning of the term following their enactment or as specified in the approved form of the regulation. Academic policies, procedures, and regulations encompass such things as grading systems, transfer of credit policies, academic fees, and guidelines for applying courses toward the degree requirements.

Only those persons specified in an academic regulation may authorize exceptions or waivers pertaining to that policy. No exceptions to academic regulations or waivers of academic requirements are recognized by the university except in those cases where a student has followed the university's procedures for obtaining such waiver or exception as published in the university's Academic Regulations. Individual advisors or faculty members are not authorized to grant waivers or exceptions. All waivers and exceptions granted by authorized university officials must be provided in writing. All exceptions and waivers must be made in writing, with copies provided to the student and to all university offices and units having an interest or responsibility related to the regulation in question.

Registration

Undergraduate Registration Policy and Procedures

As soon as an application for admission has been approved, traditional Aurora campus undergraduate students may contact the Crouse Center for Academic Advising to make an initial appointment with an advisor to register for courses. Registration and orientation days for Aurora students are provided in May and June as a convenience to first-year students planning to enter in the fall semester. New transfer students complete the advisement process and register during assigned advisement periods and prior to the start of the new term. General program advising with a professional advisor is available by appointment to all Aurora campus traditional students through the Crouse Center for Academic Advising. Undergraduate online students are advised through AU Online.

All registration forms must bear the signature of a student success/academic advisor to indicate that the student's proposed registration has been reviewed. Forms must also bear the signature of the student to indicate that the student accepts responsibility for the consequences of the registration and agrees to be bound by all relevant university regulations.

All accounts with the Student Accounts Office must be up to date. Students must be in compliance with the State of Illinois immunization requirements. Refer to Health Services website (<https://aurora.edu/student-life/campus-services/wellness/>) for additional information.

Students may register for and be admitted to classes in any term only up to and during the first week of the term for courses that meet more than once a week. Courses that meet only once a week may be added prior to the second class meeting. For classes scheduled outside of regular terms, the University Registrar will calculate late registration deadlines and include this information with registration materials for such classes. Registration procedures and deadlines for learning experiences co-sponsored with other educational institutions or organizations are

governed by the contractual agreements for co-sponsorship when duly approved by Aurora University.

Only those students who appear on the current class list in Self-Service may be admitted to class by faculty. Faculty who knowingly allow unregistered students to attend class are subject to disciplinary action by the university.

Graduate Registration Policy and Procedures

As soon as an application for admission has been approved, students are notified and asked to contact their graduate program office to make an initial appointment with a graduate advisor. All degree-seeking graduate students are required to consult with an academic advisor before registering for classes. As soon as the advisement appointment is completed, a student may register online. Students must be in compliance with the State of Illinois immunization requirements. Refer to Health Services website (<https://aurora.edu/student-life/campus-services/wellness/>) for additional information. Prior to registering online, the student must accept the responsibility for the programmatic consequences of the registration and agrees to be bound by all relevant university regulations. Students-at-large may register with the Office of the Registrar.

Student I.D. Cards

Students are issued an Aurora University photo identification card after registration. The card is valid while enrolled as a student at Aurora University. The I.D. card is required for the use of university facilities and services and for free or reduced-price admission to paid events on campus. There is a fee for replacement of lost or damaged I.D. cards. AU Online students may print verification from Self-Service.

Billing/Registration Policy

Students who have unpaid balances from prior terms may be placed on an Accounts Receivable (AR) hold. This includes students without an approved and current payment plan, deferred payment plan, or sponsor billing arrangement. An AR hold may also be applied if a student has not paid their university balance by the university's published due date.

Payment of Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees are assessed in accordance with university-approved policies. For specific payment terms, students should refer to the Financial Responsibility Agreement accepted at the time of registration.

Students approved for a university payment plan or deferred payment plan must comply with the terms of agreement to remain eligible for continued participation. Full details of these plans are available on the Student Accounts Office website (<https://aurora.edu/student-accounts/cost-payments.html>).

Official transcripts are issued only to students in good financial standing.

Students with an Accounts Receivable (AR) hold may request that official transcripts be sent directly to a third party, such as an employer or another institution, but they cannot be issued directly to the student until the hold is resolved.

Refunds

During the regular semester, a 100% refund of tuition is provided through the first week of the semester, 90% during the second week, and 50% during the third week; no refund is issued thereafter. Refunds for Summer

Session classes and for classes that do not meet in accordance with the regular semester calendar are provided in accordance with refund schedules provided by the Student Accounts Office. Specific information is provided on the Financial Responsibility Agreement signed/accepted at the time of registration. Refunds are, in all cases, governed by the actual date of submitting a drop notice, via Self-Service or in writing, or a Request for a Withdrawal/Academic Leave of Absence.

Undergraduate Late Registration

The normal registration period ends with the closing of the Office of the Registrar on the last university business day preceding the first day of the term or the first day of a class that officially begins at some point other than the beginning of a term. Students may register late for courses that meet more than once a week only during the first week of the semester. Courses that meet only once a week may be added prior to the second class meeting. Specific deadlines may be obtained on the Office of the Registrar's webpage (<https://aurora.edu/about/administration/registrar/>).

Students are responsible for making up or completing all class work and assignments missed due to late registration for a class and late registering students enter any class with the understanding that missed work may affect their grades in the class. Faculty members are expected to make reasonable accommodation for students entering class after the first session (e.g., making available to the student copies of syllabi or other written materials previously provided to other students), but are under no obligation to provide late-registering students with access to learning experiences included in the missed classes that cannot reasonably and conveniently be repeated (e.g., group exercises, in-class quizzes or writing exercises).

Graduate Late Registration

The normal registration period ends with the closing of the Office of the Registrar on the last university business day preceding the first day of the term or the first day of a class that officially begins at some point other than the beginning of a term. Students may late register only during the first 10% of the term and before the class has met for 10% of the published contact time. Specific deadlines are published in the schedule of classes or may be obtained on the Office of the Registrar's webpage (<https://aurora.edu/about/administration/registrar/registrar-forms.html>). It is the responsibility of a late-registering student to make up missed class work, and students are permitted to late register only with the understanding that their grades may be affected by work that cannot be made up.

Adding and Dropping Courses

Changing Courses

Once a student has registered for courses, he/she may make changes to his/her schedule up through the add/drop period, online via Self-Service. If the student is unable to make the changes in Self-Service, the student should complete a Registration Form with the appropriate changes and, after signing the form, turn it in to their student success/academic advisor or the Office of the Registrar. The Registration Forms are available from any advisor, in the Office of the Registrar, and online. Registration Forms for changes requested by the student must be initiated by the student.

Courses may be added only before and during the official late registration period. No course may be dropped after the end of the 10th week of classes in a 16-week semester or the sixth week in an eight-week term or

module. For courses scheduled outside of the regular semesters, see the Academic Calendar for Add/Drop/Withdrawal deadlines. Once a student has registered for courses, he/she can change the grading system from letter grade to Credit/No Credit or vice-versa in writing with the Office of the Registrar prior to the second week of the term.

It is the responsibility of the student to make certain that any schedule changes are completed by the specific deadlines for late registration, change of grading system, or withdrawal from courses. Aurora University reserves the right to administratively drop/withdraw those students who are not actively attending or pursuing course objectives as established by their instructors, who are enrolled in courses not consistent with placement testing and/or course prerequisites, who fail to pay their tuition and fees, or who receive sanctions resulting in dismissal from course(s) or the university. Changes initiated by the university are handled administratively by student success/academic advisors, the Office of Academic Affairs, or the University Registrar as appropriate.

Grades for Dropped Courses

Courses dropped with 100% refund do not appear on the student's permanent academic record. A grade of "W" (withdrawal) will be recorded on the student's permanent academic record for courses dropped during the remainder of the available partial refund period noted on the academic and/or registrar calendar. Consult the Academic and/or Registrar Calendar for specifics.

For courses scheduled outside of the regular semesters (i.e., Summer), the Office of the Registrar will calculate late registration and withdrawal deadlines and provide this information on the Office of the Registrar's website (<https://aurora.edu/about/administration/registrar/>).

Undergraduate Accelerated Load (Overload)

Students desiring to register for an accelerated load of more than 18 semester hours in any term must have the approval of a student success/academic advisor or the University Registrar. General criteria to be applied are a cumulative GPA of 3.0 for returning and transfer students, and an SAT composite of 1100 or ACT composite of 26 for entering freshmen. Advisors may approve an accelerated load of more than 18 semester hours in any term if the student has a cumulative GPA at Aurora University of at least 3.40. The University Registrar will review petitions for students with a cumulative GPA at Aurora University that is below 3.400. Each case will be considered individually against the general guidelines, taking into account other factors such as recent performance patterns. Students may not exceed 21 semester hours in a semester.

Graduate Credit Load

Full-time status for graduate study is 6 to 17 semester hours in any term. Graduate students may not take more than 17 semester hours per term.

Waiting List

Once a course has been closed, a student is encouraged to select and register for an alternative course. If a student wishes to be placed on the waiting list for the original course, the student can choose to waitlist the course in Self-Service or with the assistance of a student success/academic advisor. Students are admitted from the waiting list on the basis of need as determined by the Office of the Registrar in consultation with program chairs/directors and other academic officials when appropriate. The waiting list does not operate on a first-come,

first-served basis, nor do instructors have influence on the decision. The Office of the Registrar makes determinations prior to the start of the term. Students authorized to add the class are contacted by email when they have permission to register for the course. It is the responsibility of the student to register for the course during the 24-hour window of authorization. Failure to register within the allotted timeframe results in forfeiture of the seat in the course. Aurora University reserves the right to register students actively on a waitlist into the corresponding course. It is the responsibility of the student to remove himself/herself via Self-Service or with the assistance of a student success/academic advisor, from any waiting list for which he/she no longer wishes to be considered.

Auditor Status

Aurora University has an auditor (AU) status for those individuals who do not wish to earn college credit for either an undergraduate or graduate course. Auditing privileges may include full participation in class sessions, with the exception that instructors are not required to evaluate and grade an auditor's performance in a course. Instructors may determine the character of participation and requirements of auditors. The tuition fee for auditing has been established at 50% of the regular tuition rate. Any additional class fees will be at the expense of the auditor.

Auditors must register for classes on a standby basis, with the understanding that students registering for credit have priority in the class. A decision as to whether auditors may enter classes will be made prior to the beginning of the first class session. Audited courses will be posted on a student's permanent academic record as an audit (AU). No academic credit will be granted for audited classes at any time. Auditors may not participate in clinical experiences, field placements, and practica courses.

Full-Time and Part-Time Enrollment

Students may enroll either full- or part-time at Aurora University; in some graduate programs, a student must declare his/her intention in order to be placed in the correct sequence of courses to complete the program on a full- or part-time basis. Full-time undergraduate enrollment is defined as a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester (24 credit hours per academic year). Full-time graduate enrollment is defined as a minimum of six credit hours per semester (12 credit hours per academic year).

Visitors

An individual who wishes to visit a class session may not do so without the prior approval of the university.

Council of West Suburban Colleges Consortium (CWSC) Cross Registration Program

Courses taken at other schools in Council of West Suburban Colleges Consortium or CWSC (North Central College and Benedictine University) may be applied to Aurora University programs without violating the AU residence requirement. Cross-registration is permitted with permission of the other school and in accordance with terms of an agreement among all member schools. Prior approval of the student's AU advisor and the University Registrar is required on the cross-registration form before registering at one of the other institutions. Cross-registration is available during the regular academic year (fall and spring terms). Tuition is paid to the home school and grades are recorded at the home school without the necessity of applying for a transcript.

Through this program, degree-seeking students at each of the member schools have access to a broad selection of academic offerings and scheduling options. Contact the Office of the Registrar for eligibility information and special registration forms.

Petitions

Prior Approval Petition

It is expected that, once enrolled at Aurora University, a student will complete all coursework at AU. When a student wishes to register for coursework at another institution due to extenuating circumstances, or to take a correspondence course, or a CLEP examination, they must file a Petition for Prior Approval seeking approval from the University Registrar to make sure that the work they plan to do is not available at Aurora University, will be transferable, and is applicable toward their degree. This petition must be submitted for review prior to registering for coursework at other institutions. Students retaking courses for grade replacement must do so at Aurora University.

After completing a previously approved course for transfer, the student must have an official transcript sent to the Office of the Registrar. The transcript must arrive within 30 days of the completion of the course.

General Petition

When a student wishes to request an exemption from any part of the General Degree requirements, they must fill out a General Petition stating their request and file it with the Office of the Registrar. The student should seek approval from the academic chair and dean/executive director or designate of the program in which the student is declared as a major, and/or of the subject area of the course in question, before submitting the petition to the Office of the Registrar. The University Registrar approves general petitions in accordance with guidelines issued by the General Education Committee and in consultation with the Program Chair or Academic Deans and Administrative Dean, as appropriate. Contact the Crouse Center for Academic Advising or the Office of the Registrar for additional information.

Petition for Acceptance of a "D" on a Major

Students who wish to have a "D" applied to their major must complete a general petition and file it in the Office of the Registrar. The student should seek a recommendation and supporting statement from the Academic Dean or designate of the program in which the student is declared as a major, and supporting information from the unit in which the course was offered (if different from the major program) before submitting the petition to the Office of the Registrar. A determination will be made by the University Registrar or Office of Academic Affairs as appropriate.

Special Educational Experiences and Credit

Individual Study Petitions — Special petitions must be completed for Directed Study (DS), Independent Study (IS), and Courses by Special Arrangement (CBSA). These petitions must be completed with the instructor of record and approved by the Program Chair, Academic Dean, and Office of Academic Affairs prior to processing the registration for the individualized study course; standard registration deadlines

apply. Regular tuition applies and in the case of courses by special arrangement, an additional fee may be assessed.

The purpose of an Independent Study is to allow the competent and prepared student to pursue study of a topic of special interest or need in depth and to develop the student's ability to work on their own by pursuing a reading/research project to successful completion. Prior to registration, students must file the Independent Study Petition. This petition requires the signature/approval of the Instructor, Program Chair, Academic Dean, and Office of Academic Affairs. Regular tuition is charged.

In most cases, Independent Study should be within the field of the student's major and should be something that cannot be pursued through established courses. These are pursued on campus under the direct supervision of an Aurora University faculty member.

While most Independent Studies last one full term, occasionally they will run over several terms or less than one term. Students should register for Independent Studies along with other classes. During the first week of classes, the University Registrar must approve registration for Independent Studies on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Instructor, Academic Dean, and Office of Academic Affairs. No Independent Studies will be approved after the first week of the term.

Course by Special Arrangement (CBSA) — This is a course that is part of the approved curriculum program but is being offered to a student during a term when it is not scheduled. It should be employed only in cases of extreme scheduling conflict when no substitution is appropriate. Prior to registration, students must file the Course By Special Arrangement Petition. This petition requires the signature/approval of the Instructor, Program Chair, Academic Dean, and Office of Academic Affairs. An additional \$130 per semester hour fee is assessed in addition to regular tuition.

Directed Study (DS) — This is a course in which a student or students study on campus under the close supervision of an Aurora University faculty member. This is not "field experience," does not cover material in the regular curriculum, and is not as research and/or independently oriented in its instructional methodology as an Independent Study. Students should file the Directed Study Petition prior to registration. This petition must be signed/approved by the Instructor, Program Chair, Academic Dean, and Office of Academic Affairs. Regular tuition is charged.

Internships and Practica — All students are encouraged to explore and participate in an internship experience. Aurora University recognizes the validity of field experiences and experiential learning conducted under the direction of the faculty and encourages the integration of such learning into the university's academic programs where appropriate. Students pay normal tuition for internship and practica credit. Students are also responsible for other expenses associated with placements (e.g., travel, texts or reference materials, special clothing, insurance required by the site, etc.).

In order for the student to receive credit for an academic internship/practica experience, the student must complete the minimum required number of clock hours per credit hours.

Credit Hours Attempted	Minimum Required Clock Hours
1 semester hours	49 hours
2 semester hours	97 hours

3 semester hours	145 hours
4 semester hours	193 hours
5 semester hours	242 hours
6 semester hours	290 hours
7 semester hours	338 hours
8 semester hours	387 hours
9 semester hours	435 hours
10 semester hours	483 hours
11 semester hours	531 hours
12 semester hours	579 hours
13 semester hours	627 hours
14 semester hours	676 hours

Internship Policies:

1. The Internship Information Packet is located online. Additional guidance can be sought from a student's academic department. Students must meet with their faculty sponsor and/or the internship advisor prior to starting an internship experience. Students can choose to participate in either an academic internship experience for credit or a non-credit volunteer internship experience. All internship experiences are beneficial.
2. Students participating in an academic internship experience for credit may arrange the internship experience in conjunction with any credit-bearing program of the university with the consent and sponsorship of the program faculty. Internships carry common course numbers throughout the university, together with the departmental prefix of the sponsoring program. Internship experiences may carry a departmental prefix reflecting the discipline of the faculty sponsor and the content of the learning experience, even though the credit may not be applicable to a specific major.
3. Aurora University offers two forms of internship experiences:
 - a. An academic internship experience for credit requires the student to be at least a sophomore in standing. The academic internship experience requires a faculty sponsor, educational criteria, and a current executed affiliation agreement and Schedule A on file. Internships can be designated as either credit/no credit or letter grade depending on the school or program. An academic internship experience will have the appropriate departmental prefix (i.e., CRJ, BUS, BIO, etc.) and 2940/3940/4940.
 - b. A non-credit volunteer internship experience enables a student to either explore a professional area of interest or perform a documented community service. The non-credit internship experience does not require a faculty sponsor and the student will not receive credit or a letter grade for the experience. Non-credit internships may never be converted for retroactive credit or recorded on the academic transcript.
4. All students participating in an internship experience must have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0. This policy does not apply to students who are majoring in social work, education, physical education, athletic training, and nursing. Schools and programs have the right to apply a higher GPA standard that may supersede this policy. Students must not have been on academic warning at the end of the preceding term when the internship experience is to begin. Students must also have completed at least 12 semester hours at AU by the time the internship experience begins. The program faculty of the approving/sponsoring unit may impose additional or more stringent requirements for eligibility.

5. Students must meet all eligibility requirements imposed by the internship site, including but not limited to, GPA requirements, or prior completion of specific coursework, background/security checks, citizenship/residency requirements, health and fitness, insurance coverage, prior work experience, and demonstrated competence in specific skills.
 6. Other completion requirements (including, but not limited to, outside reading, journals and logs, written assignments, progress, and exit interviews) may be imposed at the discretion of the faculty sponsor or the program faculty. In all cases, the completion requirements of the learning experience shall include documentation, readings, or other assignments adequate to support evaluation for credit by the faculty.
 7. A maximum of 14 semester hours of academic internship experience credit may be presented for graduation as part of general degree requirements.
 8. Contracts for an academic internship experience for inclusion in a major must bear the signatures of the student, the site supervisor, the faculty sponsor, Dean or designate and the internship advisor. The deadline for submitting completed contracts for an internship experience are as follows (academic departments may require earlier deadlines which supersede those listed below):
 - a. Fall semester – August 1
 - b. Spring semester – December 15
 - c. Summer semester – May 1
 9. No approvals required in this section may be granted retroactively. Students may not begin their internship experience prior to official registration for the course.
 10. Faculty sponsors must secure the prior approval of the Academic Dean unless sponsorship duties have been arranged in the faculty member's contractual load or otherwise delegated by the Academic Dean. The internship advisor or faculty sponsor will determine the appropriateness of a particular site or placement and then either arrange the initial contact between the student and the site or provide contact information for the student to arrange an interview. Students who have learned of potential sites through other channels must review the site with the internship coordinator or Program Chair before initiating contact with the site.
 11. All internship sites must have a current executed affiliation agreement and Schedule A on file before a student can register for their internship at the site.
 12. An internship application must be completed and approved as an authorization to register for an internship experience.
 13. Students should consult and secure a faculty sponsor during the first five weeks of the term preceding the term in which an internship experience is to begin.
 14. Final evaluation for the issuance of credit/no-credit or letter grade is the sole responsibility of the faculty sponsor as the faculty member of record for the learning experience, who will consult with and consider the evaluations of the student and the site supervisor.
- courses shall include terms such as "practicum," or "field" to indicate clearly that the course is conducted through this type of experiential instructional model.
3. Practicum credit is included in maximums established under the general academic regulations for total credit from given departments or divisions that may be presented for graduation. Within such limits, all requirements, minimums and maximums for practicum credit within a program are established by the program faculty.
 4. Prerequisites for enrollment in practica including but not limited to GPA, prior coursework, declaration of major, and special skills or fitness are determined by the controlling program and summarized in the catalog description, which shall also reference the source of the full program regulations pertaining to the practicum offering.
 5. All practica are under the academic supervision of program faculty assigned by the Program Chair and approved through the normal mechanism for approval of faculty teaching assignments in the academic unit. The supervising faculty determines completion requirements and instructional design, monitor student progress, serve as the liaison between the university and the site, and are responsible for summary evaluation and grading of students enrolled in practica.
 6. Contact hours and duration shall be determined by the program faculty but shall adhere to the minimum clock hour conversions above (p. 30).
 7. Grading systems for practica are determined by the program faculty. Completion requirements and evaluation methods must support the grading system chosen for a practicum.
 8. Students register for practica as part of the normal registration process for other coursework. Controlling programs are responsible for handling pre-practicum application procedures, if any. The signature of a program advisor or designee on the student's registration form or change of course petition is required for registration. Programs incorporating practica in their offerings are responsible for establishing faculty committees or other mechanisms that may be required to meet internal or external monitoring, screening, certification, or reporting requirements.

Course Descriptions

Catalog course descriptions are included in published catalogs. Descriptions of independent studies, directed studies, and internships are contained in the petition by which the learning experience was approved. Course descriptions and outlines of selected topics courses are provided by the sponsoring department at the time the course is submitted for the course schedule and are permanently available in Colleague, the student information system (SIS). Descriptions of courses by special arrangement do not differ from published catalog descriptions.

Attendance Policy

Class Attendance

Regular class attendance is expected of all students. Aurora University has no permissible cut policy. Because of the wide diversity that exists among the various courses within the university and the manner in which they are conducted, it is the responsibility of each instructor to establish and maintain their own policy in each of their classes. Each instructor is highly encouraged to maintain a record of attendance history. Students must comply with attendance requirements established by financial aid sources regardless of the attendance policy established by the instructor.

Practica Policies:

1. Practica courses may be developed and offered by any credit-bearing program of the university as a required or selected course offering included in a major, certificate, or credential program.
2. Practica bear the departmental prefix of the program and are assigned course numbers in accordance with the numbering scheme employed by the program. Titles and catalog descriptions of these

Attendance Policy Considerations for Special Circumstances

In the event that CDC-endorsed community health concerns or other extraordinary circumstances cause the university to transition to remote learning in part or total, the following attendance policy will apply. Synchronous class sessions attended remotely are treated as in-person class sessions for the purpose of attendance. Appropriate attendance for these class sessions will require that the student's device camera is on with the student clearly visible. The attendance policy listed in the course syllabus will remain in force. Visibility of the student shall serve as evidence of attendance during the remote instruction period.

1. Isolation – In the event that a student has tested positive for a communicable disease necessitating implementation of this policy, they must isolate at their residence for the duration of time prescribed by the CDC or relevant regulatory authorities. During this time, the student may attend class via Zoom and engage remotely in learning activities as they are able, and if the class structure allows. Should the student be too ill to attend remotely, or the class structure prohibit such remote attendance or engagement, the class sessions missed shall be excused. A student may return to class from isolation when cleared by the university to do so.
2. Documentation – Should a physician's recommended isolation time exceed that prescribed by the CDC or other relevant regulatory authorities, documentation must be provided to the university. Once provided, the Special Circumstance Attendance Policy will honor the physician's recommendation in the determination of excused absences.
3. Make-up Work – At minimum, a student whose absences are excused shall be able to make up all work and assignments missed during their illness. Faculty members may authorize additional time at their discretion.
4. Extended Absence for Illness – Students may petition for an "Incomplete" grade if they were passing the course prior to the first related absence. Such requests are subject to customary administrative approvals. The university completion deadline for the "Incomplete" grade shall apply.

Authorized Absences from Class Policy

A student representing the university at university-sponsored events may be granted authorized absences from class provided that the student has complied with approved procedures. Note that it is the responsibility of the student to attempt to schedule courses so as to minimize potential class absences. It is generally unacceptable for authorized absences to exceed 20% of the class meetings. In such cases, alternative arrangements, such as a Course by Special Arrangement (CBSA), may be considered at the discretion of the instructor.

Definitions and Academic and Procedural Considerations Regarding Attendance

1. "A student representing the university": The student must be duly recognized by the manager or advisor of the event. A list of student participants should be forwarded to the Office of Academic Affairs.
2. "University-sponsored events": The manager or advisor of the event or activity shall submit to the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) a list of events and have them approved as eligible for inclusion under this policy. This definition normally includes intercollegiate athletics,

student government, student development, and fine arts events, as well as events required for the completion of another academic course.

3. "Event" means the actual event at which the student represents the university together with necessary travel time to and from the event site, where applicable. It does not apply to rehearsals, practices, or meetings preparatory to the event.
4. Students are required to make up all work missed due to an authorized absence and, except when conditions are prohibitive, are responsible for making arrangements with faculty at least 48 hours in advance of the anticipated absence.
5. Faculty will make reasonable accommodations for completion of work by students who are granted authorized absences through established university procedures. It is expected that students would be able to complete makeup exams and assignments within 72 hours of the return to campus.

Procedures: Requesting and Granting Authorized Absences from Class

1. Registering University-Sponsored Events and Participants: At least one week prior to the start of each academic term, the managers or advisors of all university-sponsored events provide to the Office of Academic Affairs a schedule of those events during that term for which a student may be granted an authorized absence. Rosters of those students duly registered to participate in each event should be forwarded to the Office of Academic Affairs 48 hours before the scheduled event. The Office of Academic Affairs will maintain a record of all approved events and registered participants. The manager or advisor will provide all participating students with a schedule of the days and times of all events during that term for which the student may need to request an authorized absence.
2. Student Requests for Authorized Absence: At least 48 hours before the class from which an authorized absence is requested, the student must contact the faculty member privately, provide the schedule of approved events, and obtain from the faculty member a written confirmation of the request, together with a statement of the work to be made up by the student. At the discretion of the faculty member, the confirmation and statement of work may be in written format. In the case of events occurring in the first two days of the term, students will need to contact instructors in advance of the term to make arrangements for an authorized absence.
3. Procedure for Faculty: When a student requests an authorized absence, the faculty member provides the student with any necessary information concerning assignments to be completed. If the authorized absence will cause the student to miss in-class assignments or learning experiences that are part of the grading of the course, the faculty member may require alternative assignments of the student, as required by the outcomes of the course. Faculty members may establish in the class syllabus reasonable rules and procedures for the manner in which they wish to have students make requests for authorized absences (e.g., during office hours, by phone, by written request, before or after class, etc.).
4. Advisement Procedures: Whenever possible, managers or advisors of university sponsored events will provide to participating students a tentative schedule of events for the following term prior to the beginning of the advisement period for that term. Participating students will submit, in writing, their planned participation to their student success/academic advisors in order to anticipate, minimize, and plan for any potential conflicts with classes.

Academic Leave of Absence

Academic Leave of Absence and Re-admission

Students who have begun their coursework at Aurora University and must interrupt their course of study for one term (excluding summer) will be able to return the following semester with no additional action needed. Students who have begun their coursework at Aurora University and must interrupt their course of study for more than one term (excluding summer) must file an Academic Leave of Absence (LOA) form in order to be able to resume studies according to the conditions described below.

1. Academic leaves may be granted for up to two academic years (four terms excluding summer).
 - a. Students on an approved LOA for no more than two consecutive terms (excluding summer) will generally be allowed to return under the catalog that was in effect when they were last enrolled as long as this does not result in an obligation on the part of the University to provide coursework or programs that have been altered or discontinued in the interim.
 - b. Students on an approved LOA for three to four consecutive terms (excluding summer) will be required to return under the catalog in effect at the time of their return.
 - c. Students on an approved LOA that has expired after four consecutive terms (excluding summer) must apply for readmission through the Office of Admission.
 - d. Students who interrupt their studies for one academic term (excluding summer) without an approved LOA and need to extend their leave for additional terms must submit a LOA prior to the end of the second week of the second term of absence.
 - e. For students who begin an approved LOA before the end of the second week of the term, the counting of consecutive terms will begin with the current semester. For students who begin an approved LOA after the end of the second week of the term, the counting of consecutive terms will begin with the next semester (excluding summer).
2. Students who are on an active LOA and are ready to return must complete and submit a "Return from Academic Leave of Absence" form located on the Office of the Registrar (<https://aurora.edu/about/administration/registrar/registrar-forms.html>) registrar web page (<https://aurora.edu/about/administration/registrar/>) prior to the beginning of the desired term to return. Students whose LOA has expired must contact the Office of Admission.
3. Students who plan to attend another institution during a LOA must submit a Petition for Prior Approval. Without the Petition for Prior Approval on file, enrollment at any other institution of post-secondary education during a leave of absence from Aurora University automatically cancels all provisions of the leave of absence.
4. Submission of a completed Academic Leave of Absence/Withdrawal form will result in the cancelation of all future course registrations. When applicable, if a student indicates they do not intend to complete the current semester, the student will be withdrawn from all current semester coursework in accordance with University regulations.

Medical Leave of Absence

Student Leaves of Absence Policy - Voluntary or Involuntary

Voluntary Medical Leave of Absence (MLOA)

The purpose of a voluntary medical leave of absence (MLOA) is to provide a student with time away from Aurora University for treatment of a physical or mental health condition that impairs a student's ability to function successfully or safely as a member of the University community. The authority to grant an MLOA and permission to return from an MLOA resides with the Dean of Students, or their designee. This policy applies to all undergraduate and graduate students.

Aurora University has designed this policy to ensure that students are given the individualized consideration and support necessary to address their particular circumstances. This policy is designed to provide for a flexible and individualized process to facilitate student requests for MLOA, with the goal of having students return to the University and successfully complete their studies.

This policy is intended for the benefit of students who experience unanticipated medical situations during an academic semester. Students who wish to Withdraw or take a non-medical Leave of Absence can do so by completing a Leave of Absence/Withdrawal Form via the Self-Service portal. Questions about withdrawing or taking a non-medical Leave of Absence can be directed to the Crouse Center for Academic Advising or the Office of the Registrar.

MLOA Approval Process

A student who is experiencing physical or mental health issues that are interfering with his or her academic course work and/or ability to participate in campus life may request MLOA by following the process outlined below.

1. **Initial Discussion of Potential Accommodations or Leave.** A student experiencing physical or mental health issues that are interfering with his or her academic course work and/or ability to participate in campus life should feel free to contact Health Services, Counseling Services, Disability Resource Office, or the Dean of Students to explore whether an MLOA is appropriate. Depending upon the circumstances, the University and student may discuss whether reasonable accommodations, modifications, or academic adjustments are available that may permit the student to continue his or her studies without the need to take MLOA.
2. **Request for Medical Leave of Absence.** If, after completing the preliminary process above, the student is interested in pursuing a Medical Leave of Absence, the student should fill out and submit to the Dean of Students a **Request for Medical Leave of Absence** form, with appropriate documentation from a licensed physician or mental health professional regarding the student's need to take a medical leave. At the student's request, the University will assist the student in obtaining the necessary MLOA Request form, completing it, and contacting different University representatives and offices (such as Health Services or Counseling Services) who may have useful information or be able to provide documentation that assists in preparation of the Request.
3. **Determination.** As soon as possible after receiving the Request and documentation, the Dean of Students or their designee will notify the student in writing of the determination. Upon approving a request for a medical leave, the student will also be informed of the status of the student's current coursework and withdrawal from classes.

If the student begins such a leave during a semester, the student will generally be assigned "withdrawal" grades without academic penalty for all pending classes (even if the normal deadline for withdrawal has passed). Where a student has made significant academic progress in an enrolled course or courses, however, the student has the option of requesting an "incomplete" in lieu of withdrawal. The determination whether to allow an "incomplete" in these circumstances will be made by the Dean of Students in consultation with the Chief Academic Officer or designee. On-campus residents beginning MLOAs will normally be expected to vacate the residence hall within 48 hours of the granting of a request for MLOA; the University will assist the student in making such arrangements. Tuition and room charges for a student taking MLOA will be reviewed the appropriate departments and adjustments will be made to the student's account to provide the student with the greatest benefit financially.

4. **Timing of Determination.** The Dean of Students will act as quickly as possible in deciding whether to grant a Request for MLOA, so that any student experiencing difficulties due to a medical or mental health condition may promptly begin his or her requested leave and obtain the support he or she needs.
5. **Timing of Request for MLOA.** To obtain an MLOA for the current semester, students are encouraged to request an MLOA and complete a **Request for Medical Leave of Absence** form on or before the final day of classes. However, the University may, in its discretion, grant a retroactive MLOA.

Involuntary Leave of Absence Purpose and Scope of Policy

It is the policy of Aurora University to foster a campus environment that is conducive to learning, promotes the University's educational purposes, maintains reasonable order, and protects the rights and safety of all members of the University community. In extraordinary circumstances the University may place a student on an involuntary leave of absence or take other appropriate action, including disciplinary action, for reasons of personal or community safety, subject to the procedure outlined below. This policy applies to all University students and to all University locations, programs, and activities. In addition to utilizing this policy, the University also reserves the right to take action under the University's disciplinary procedures. This policy does not preclude the University from exercising its discretion to remove or dismiss a student from the University, its programs or activities, or University-owned facilities as a result of the violation of other Aurora University policies, procedures, rules, or regulations. Students with medical or mental health conditions are subject to the same conduct requirements applicable to all Aurora University students and may be subject to appropriate discipline, including removal from the University.

Policy

A student may be required to take an involuntary leave of absence from Aurora University and/or be involuntarily removed from the University's programs, activities, or facilities if the University determines that, for any reason, (a) the student presents a danger to the fulfillment of the mission of the University or to the life, health, welfare, safety, or property of any member of the University community or other person; or (b) the student's conduct renders him or her unable (i) to function safely or effectively in the University's programs, activities, or facilities without harming himself or herself, harming one or more other individuals, causing a disruption, or (ii) to be helped by mental or physical medical treatment.

Such circumstances may include, but are not necessarily limited to, engaging in physical or sexual violence, activity involving illegal drugs or other controlled substances, disruptive conduct, conduct that threatens

the safety of others, or conduct that demonstrates an inability to care for oneself.

The procedure outlined below will be initiated (i) only after reasonable attempts to secure a student's voluntary cooperation for a leave of absence have been pursued; or (ii) if a student refuses to agree to, or does not adhere to reasonable conditions established for, the student's return or reinstatement to the University, continued presence on campus, or continued presence in University housing or other University program or activity.

Procedure

The Dean of Students or designee may be alerted to a student's concerning or troubling conduct from a variety of sources on campus and may take action accordingly. If the Dean of Students deems it appropriate, this procedure may be initiated, subject to any modifications that the University deems appropriate in its discretion. Any pending disciplinary proceedings will usually be suspended pending a meeting with the student and evaluation of the student under this procedure, but this is a matter reserved to the University's discretion.

1. **Information gathering.** Upon initiation of this procedure, the Dean of Students will consult on a confidential basis with others in the campus community who have knowledge regarding the student's conduct and circumstances and other appropriate persons with knowledge about the student's condition and circumstances (e.g., parents, healthcare providers) to determine whether the student is able to comply with this policy.
2. **Initial meeting with student/possible voluntary leave.** If practicable under the circumstances, the Dean of Students will schedule a meeting with the student as part of the information gathering process. The student may be accompanied by a non-attorney advisor. At any time, the Dean of Students may discuss with the student whether the student wishes to take a voluntary leave (i.e. medical leave of absence, leave of absence or withdrawal) and may also attach appropriate reinstatement conditions to the granting of any such leave, to the extent such conditions are deemed necessary or appropriate for purposes of adhering to the conduct standards set forth in this policy.
3. **Individualized assessment.** Any determination that a student's conduct is inconsistent with the standards set forth in this policy shall be based on an individualized assessment. This assessment shall be based upon the best available objective evidence, which may include available medical information.
4. **Interim involuntary leave.** If the University concludes that a student presents an immediate danger (a) to the fulfillment of the mission of the University or to the life, health, welfare, safety, or property of any member of the University community or other person, or (b) demonstrates a serious inability to function safely or effectively in the University's programs, activities, or facilities without an immediate risk of harming himself or herself or others, the Dean of Students may withdraw the student or restrict the student's access to classes and/or campus for an interim period before a final determination is made.
5. **Considering an involuntary leave.** If the review process outlined above does not (a) result in the student's decision to take a voluntary leave or (b) the Dean of Student's determination that no further proceedings are warranted, the Dean of Students shall then determine whether, under all of the individual circumstances of the case, the University wishes to consider an involuntary leave of absence (or other non-interim involuntary action). If the Dean of Students determines that the matter should be handled as an involuntary leave of absence

(or other non-interim involuntary action), the Dean of Students shall proceed to make a final determination as follows.

6. **Final determination.** In making a final determination, the Dean of Students will consider any information obtained during the preliminary review, as well as any other information that the student submits or that the Dean of Students deems relevant. The Dean of Students will also afford the student, who may be accompanied by a non-attorney advisor, an opportunity to be heard to the extent that such a meeting is possible. The Dean of Students may also consult with other University representatives and appropriate health care providers on a confidential basis in making an individualized judgment based upon all of the facts and circumstances.
7. **Possible evaluation.** As part of this final determination, the Dean of Students may require the student to schedule an evaluation by a qualified, licensed medical and/or mental health professional within and/or outside the University, with the student responsible for any costs of such evaluation and with the results of that evaluation to be shared with the Dean of Students, the student, as well as with Director of Health Services and/or Director of Counseling Services, as applicable. The University maintains a list of local treatment providers with experience in conducting these evaluations and will provide the list to the student as a resource. The Dean of Students shall consider the results of this evaluation and other information collected in making a final determination.
8. **Communicating the final decision.** Any decision by the Dean of Students to require an involuntary leave of absence (or other non-interim involuntary action) shall be communicated to the student in writing as soon as possible after the decision is rendered. The student has a right to be informed of the pertinent information upon which the decision is based, as well as the contemplated length of the leave, which will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The conditions under which a student may return to or seek readmission at the University will also be determined on a case-by-case basis and be specified in writing at or near the time that the decision is issued.
9. **Appeal.** Students have the right to appeal the Dean of Students' decision in an involuntary leave situation. Any student appeal should be made in writing to the Senior Vice President for Student Success within seven (7) days of the student's receipt of the written decision from the Dean of Students. The grounds for appeal should be set forth in writing. The student may submit supporting documentation or other information in support of the appeal. The Senior Vice President for Student Success will decide the appeal as soon as is practicable and will issue a written decision regarding the appeal. That decision shall be final.

Reinstatement after a Leave of Absence

A student on an approved MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence must be reinstated by the Dean of Students before the student may register for classes and resume coursework at Aurora University. Until such time as the student is reinstated, a student on an approved MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence retains his or her student status with the University per the following stipulations:

- Students on an approved MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence for no more than two consecutive semesters (excluding summer) will generally be allowed to return under the catalog that was in effect when they were last enrolled as long as this does not result in an obligation on the part of the university to provide coursework or programs that have been altered or discontinued in the interim.
- Students on an approved MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence for more than two consecutive semesters (excluding summer) will

be required to return under the catalog in effect at the time of their return.

- For students who begin an approved MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence before the end of the second week of the semester, the counting of consecutive semesters will begin with the current semester. For students who begin a MLOA after the end of the second week of the semester, the counting of consecutive semesters will begin with the next semester (excluding summer).
- For students on an approved MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence who have existing approved incomplete/deferred grades, the original deadline for completion of work for an X or I grade will be maintained unless an extension is approved by the Office of Academic Affairs before or at the time of the approval of the MLOA. Alternatively, the existing X or I grade may also be converted to a W grade if approved by the Dean of Students in consultation with Academic Affairs.

When a student is interested in returning to the University following an approved MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence, the student should take the following steps to initiate the reinstatement process.

1. **Contact the Dean of Students.** The student should first contact the Dean of Students (for reinstatement from an MLOA or for reinstatement from an Involuntary Leave of Absence) to communicate the student's interest in returning to the University, as far in advance of the desired return date as is reasonably possible. The student must complete and submit to Dean of Students a Reinstatement Form (and housing application, if applicable). The University requests that students submit any request for reinstatement and any supporting materials by July 15 for consideration for the Fall Semester and by December 1 for the Spring Semester. Summer courses may continue dependent on medical recommendation. This schedule will help ensure that the Dean of Students have adequate time to review the student's request for reinstatement and make a determination. If materials are received shortly after the applicable deadline, if information is missing, or if the University needs additional time to process the student's request, the University may elect to treat the request as one to return for the following semester rather than the semester originally identified by the student. However, the University will make every effort to be flexible and attempt to honor a student's request to return for the desired semester.
2. **Information Requested by Health Services and/or Counseling Services.** Depending upon the circumstances underlying the student's original MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence, and pursuant to the Dean of Students' discretion, Health Services and/or Counseling Services may be consulted in evaluating a request to return. The University will determine on a case-by-case basis what information, if any, Health Services and/or Counseling Services may require to assess a student's readiness to return following a leave of absence. Depending upon the nature and individual circumstances surrounding a particular student's leave of absence, the University may require information demonstrating that the student has the capability to handle day-to-day functioning in the University academic and living environment, with or without reasonable accommodations. Any decision whether to require this information will be made on an individualized basis and will be conveyed to the student, to the greatest extent possible, at the time the student is placed on Leave. There are many ways in which a student might be able to demonstrate his or her readiness to handle day-to-day functioning, including but not limited to information from medical providers or documentation from a reliable adult (non-family member) who has had significant interaction with the student during the leave.

of absence. Such information, if required, (a) should include an assessment of the student's ability to successfully complete coursework, internships, or other academic requirements and to participate safely in University programs and activities; and (b) the basis for any recommendation that the student is ready to return to University.

3. **Determination.** The Dean of Students will evaluate the information provided by the student as well as any information provided by Health Services and/or Counseling Services and make a determination whether the student may return to the University. Reinstatement is based on the student's readiness to manage a full-time course load (minimum of 12 credits for undergraduates; minimum of 6 credits for graduate students) or a comparable course load to the load that the student managed prior to his or her leave. The student will be notified in writing of the determination. Factors the Dean of Students will typically consider include but are not necessarily limited to:
 - a. Evaluation and recommendation by the student's treatment provider, Health Services, and/or Counseling Services;
 - b. The student's demonstrated ability to engage in productive and realistic academic planning;
 - c. The student's ability to participate safely and independently in the University's programs and activities;
 - d. The student's personal statement included on the Reinstatement Form;
 - e. Any coursework completed or employment during the MLOA or Involuntary Leave of Absence; and
 - f. Any other factors that the Dean of Students deems relevant under the student's particular circumstances.

Negative Recommendation. If, upon review, Health Services and/or Counseling Services submits a recommendation to the Dean of Students that a student is not ready for return, or if the Dean of Students otherwise concludes that the student is not ready to return, the student will be advised of this negative determination in writing, at which time the University will also explain the concerns underlying the negative determination and, as appropriate, set forth recommendations that will enhance the student's chance of a positive determination the next time the student's request is considered. A student may appeal a negative recommendation to the University by submitting an appeal letter in writing to the Senior Vice President for Student Success within 10 calendar days of receiving notice of the negative recommendation. The student may also submit any information he or she believes to be relevant to the appeal. The Senior Vice President for Student Success will review the student's submission and notify the student in writing of the University's final determination as to whether the student will be permitted to return as requested.

Returning Students. Upon reinstatement, the Dean of Students will notify appropriate campus offices of the student's return to classes and campus.

Military Accommodation

Military Activation Policy (Military Accommodation)

Students who are in the military, military reserves, or the National Guard of the United States and who are called to active duty and are ordered to relocate¹, have three options available that they may consider with their advisor in determining their enrollment status with the University:

1. Applicants to the University who have accepted an offer of admission but who have not yet registered in a degree program will be permitted to enroll for the next appropriate semester following their discharge from active duty, provided the University receives adequate notice of the applicant's intent to re-enroll. The applicant to reapply for admission nor to pay an additional application fee. Any prepaid admission deposits, tuition, room or board charges will be refunded.
2. Students may withdraw from all courses in which they are enrolled as of the effective date of the order to report to active duty. If this option is chosen, a full credit of all tuition and fees will be made to the student's account. Students will receive a pro-rated credit of dining service and of housing contract charges. Financial aid awards that were credited to students' accounts will be recovered by the University in the amount of tuition and fees, dining or housing credit, as financial aid regulations require that if the student withdraws prior to completing 60% of a payment period or term and the student has federal financial aid a recalculation of aid must take place.
3. Students may take a grade of Incomplete in all courses if the student receives the official order past the point of 60% of total course engagement time. The remaining course work to be completed will be noted on the Petition for Incomplete Grade form and affirmed by the student and the appropriate faculty member, for each course in which the student is enrolled. Students will receive a pro-rated credit of dining service and housing contract charges.

¹ *Although this policy pertains primarily to the reserves and National Guard, the same options will be offered to active duty personnel who are transferred unexpectedly out of the area as a result of the President of the United States activating reserve or National Guard units.*

Should the student fail to pursue any of the three options, they will be subject to standard financial aid and other university policies and processes that guide the handling of students who cease academic engagement mid-term.

Request a Military Accommodation

To initiate any of the options above, and request a Military Accommodation, students must:

1. Provide a copy of their active duty orders to the University Registrar, in the form of a formal correspondence on unit letterhead signed by the commander. The formal correspondence must include unit commander contact information, and verification of duration and location of pending assignment. The orders will be kept in the student's permanent file in the Office of the Registrar along with the withdrawal form and any petitions for incompletes.
2. File a Military Leave of Absence Form with the Office of the Registrar.
3. File Petitions for Incomplete Grades if that option is chosen.
4. A copy of a duly executed power of attorney will be required by the University before processing the withdrawal or incomplete form for a student, when that process is initiated by any person other than the student. It is recommended that a power of attorney be filed for any activated student to address any unanticipated situation.
5. The student's advisor should be notified of the activation.
6. The student must give oral or written notice of her intent to return to school within three years after the completion of the period of service. A student hospitalized or convalescing due to an illness or injury incurred or aggravated during the performance of service

must notify the school within two years after the period needed for recovery from the illness or injury.

Return Following Separation from Active Duty

In alignment with federal requirements, the University will readmit a service member with the same academic status held at the time of their last attendance or at the time of acceptance for admission. To initiate the process to return following separation from active duty:

1. The student must give oral or written notice of her intent to return to school within three years after the completion of the period of service. A student hospitalized or convalescing due to an illness or injury incurred or aggravated during the performance of service must notify the school within two years after the period needed for recovery from the illness or injury.
2. A student who opted for a full withdrawal from courses at the point of their activation/deployment, may register for the next available term following the notification of their intent to re-enroll. If a notification of intent occurs less than 14 days prior to the start of the next available term, registration in that term will be subject to administrative approval from the office of Academic Affairs.
3. A student who opted to receive "I" grades in their course work at the point of their activation/deployment, must complete any pending course work related to Incomplete grades, thus allowing for the conversion of the "I" grade to a regular grade, by no later than the end of the eighth week of the semester after their return, and before the student will be allowed to register for additional coursework.

Withdrawal

Students wishing to discontinue their studies at Aurora University are expected to submit a Withdrawal form through Self-Service. Students who subsequently wish to resume their studies at the University must apply for readmission through the Office of Admission and are subject to the academic catalog and regulations prevailing at the time of readmission.

Transfer and Nontraditional Sources of Credit

Transfer Credit

General Criteria and Process

(Effective beginning Fall 2025)

1. Official evaluation of acceptability for transfer — An official evaluation of all previously completed college credit is prepared by the Office of the Registrar after a transfer student has been approved for general admission to the university. The University Registrar makes the final determination for the university with respect to the transferability of credit. A maximum of 90 semester hours may be granted for credit. Students will still be required to meet all graduation requirements.
2. Acceptability for transfer — At the time of admission to the university, previously earned college credit is evaluated by the Office of the Registrar in accordance with university regulations regarding the acceptability for transfer and a summary of all previous college work and all transferable work is prepared by the Office of the Registrar for use in advisement of the student. Such evaluation does not constitute an agreement to accept any specific credit in lieu of any specific requirement for graduation from Aurora University. The

following general criteria are used by the Office of the Registrar in determining acceptability for transfer:

- a. Credit is accepted from regionally accredited post-secondary institutions and from institutions accredited by bodies recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). Credit from U.S. institutions not accredited by CHEA may only be accepted through the process for assessment of prior learning and is subject to the same limitations as other assessed prior learning. Credit earned through StraighterLine, Sophia Learning, and other similar opportunities will require an American Council of Education (ACE) official transcript for consideration of transfer credit.
 - b. Guidelines presented in the AACRAO "World Education Series" are applied to international institutions. Where credit and content determination cannot be made from international transcripts, a course-by-course evaluation in English from a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) is required at the student's expense before transfer of credit will be considered. The University Registrar reserves the right to determine whether or not international transcripts meet the university's requirements for acceptance as official records.
 - c. In most cases, only courses bearing grades of C minus (C-) or higher may be transferred. The exception is that a "D" for an Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) course will be accepted if the IAI core requirements are met before entering Aurora University. Courses bearing grades such as "pass" or "credit" may be transferred provided the regulations of the sending institution indicate that such credit represents work at the level of "C-" or higher. The cutoff for numerical grades shall be determined by the University Registrar so that such grades are accepted on a basis consistent with the "C-" criterion. Coursework bearing "pass" or "credit" grades may only be accepted for inclusion in a specific program upon review and approval of the program faculty.
 - d. In the case of credit that is to be included in a program, time limits on applicability to the program may be established by the program faculty. Time limits are determined with respect to the date of the student's first attendance at Aurora University.
 - e. Credit is ordinarily considered acceptable for transfer if it is comparable to coursework offered by Aurora University or generally considered to be part of a liberal arts based curriculum.
 - f. Post-secondary technical credit may be accepted in transfer for inclusion in an approved student-initiated major; as general elective credit if certified by a program faculty as relevant to the student's major area of study; or for inclusion in an established major upon approval of the program faculty.
 - g. Credit deemed by the sending institution, or by Aurora University, to be remedial or pre-college in level will not be accepted in transfer. However, such credit may be considered by an academic unit as a basis for waiving course prerequisites.
3. AA and AS General Education transfer articulation — Students holding an AA or AS degree from a regionally accredited college are deemed to have met all lower division General Education IDS requirements for graduation from Aurora University (see "General Education Requirements for Transfer Students" (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/undergraduate/academic-regulations-procedures/general-education/#gen-ed-requirements-transfer>)). These students still must participate in a junior-year mentoring, and assessment process.
 4. Transfer of credit by students matriculated at Aurora University — It is expected that, once enrolled at Aurora University, a student will earn all subsequent credit toward the degree at the university.

Students retaking courses for grade replacement must do so at Aurora University.

- a. Credit earned by approved cross-registration at other schools that are members of the Council of West Suburban Colleges (North Central College, Benedictine University) is treated as though it were earned at Aurora University.
- b. No credit from other institutions earned while a student is matriculated at Aurora University may be accepted in transfer except under extenuating circumstances and upon prior, written approval of the University Registrar.
 - i. Exception: Transfer credits earned during the last term immediately preceding the initial term of full-time enrollment at AU, will also be evaluated and counted as accumulated transfer credit referenced for the evaluation of required AU general education courses. This transfer grace period is available to students who are registered - during the single semester immediately preceding their initial full-time enrollment at AU, for no more than four credit hours at AU during the grace term, and at another institution concurrently. This policy will not apply to students pursuing their degree on a part-time basis.
- c. No credit may be transferred within the last 24 semester hours of the student's degree except upon the prior, written approval of the University Registrar.
- d. The applicability of transferred credits to the completion of major requirements is decided by the University Registrar or Office of Academic Affairs.
- e. Aurora University does not accept credit for college-level GED examinations in transfer.
- f. Aurora University will accept credit from an accredited graduate school toward a bachelor's degree at Aurora University. The student is not required to have received a graduate degree prior to submitting an official transcript for credit.
- g. The application of courses transferred toward meeting general degree requirements will be determined by the University Registrar or Office of Academic Affairs. Professionally oriented courses (e.g., pastoral counseling or Sunday School administration) will not apply toward general degree requirements.
- h. Study abroad credit taken outside of AU travel study/May courses taught by AU faculty is posted as transfer credit.

Transfer Articulation

AU makes available on its transfer admission web site (<https://aurora.edu/admission/transfer/index.html> (<https://aurora.edu/admission/transfer/>)), both 2+2 Plans and Transfer Plans to assist prospective students in choosing courses at many Illinois and Wisconsin community or technical colleges which will transfer into specific AU academic programs. AU utilizes the Transfer Evaluation System (TES) to provide prospective students information on how individual courses will transfer into the university.

Transfer Articulation Agreements

Aurora University and the College of DuPage have formally established a transfer articulation agreement between the two schools to aid in and encourage the transfer from the College of DuPage to Aurora University.

Nontraditional Sources of Credit

Aurora University recognizes the validity of college-level learning achieved in settings other than accredited institutions of higher education, provided that this nontraditional learning is validated in accordance with generally recognized standards of good practice and awarded through the processes provided in the university's academic regulations. There are multiple ways to receive credit through previously learned competencies and prior learning experiences. These include:

- Credit by Military Service
- Credit by Credential
- Credit by Portfolio
- Credit by Examination (CLEP tests - subject and general, including credit for language fluency)

All nontraditional sources of credit must be awarded by the semester before a student applies for graduation.

Military Credit

Credit for prior learning from recognition of military experience and training as documented on a Joint Service Transcript (JST) or another military transcript, such as CCAF or DD214 forms. This is done in conjunction with the American Council on Education (ACE) recommendations and standards. The Joint Services Transcript should be submitted to the assigned admissions counselor for review. Credit is awarded based on ACE's recommendations and will be transcribed as part of the admissions process.

Credit by Credential

Aurora University will grant students a minimum of 40 semester hours of block elective credit for having completed an Applied Associate of Science (AAS) degree from an accredited university or college. Transcripts will be evaluated to determine if other course credit can be transferred as well.

Credit by Portfolio

A portfolio assessment program is available to students who have significant prior learning through career achievements and lived experiences. Those interested in completing a portfolio for evaluation must submit the request form and enroll in the non-credit, free Credit by Portfolio online course. Students completed the Credit by Portfolio course can then enroll in the credit bearing Credit by Portfolio Submission course and pay a \$150 fee. The Portfolio Submission course is self-driven and must be completed within 90 days of the approved application. The completed portfolio will then be evaluated for additional credit by the department chair, admissions personnel, or the individual deemed to have expertise with the course content. If approved, credit will be awarded by the Registrar's office.

There is no guarantee that a submitted portfolio will result in an award of credit. Portfolio reviewers base their evaluation on national standards established by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) and on expertise in the subject matter. Appeals may occur when the institution denies the student credit for their claim. An appointed officer in the Office of Academic Affairs will review appeals. The decision of the officer is final. To appeal, the student must demonstrate one the following criteria applies:

- The standard assessment process was not followed.
- Feedback from the portfolio assessor was not sufficient.
- The student demonstrates evidence of bias in the review process.

Credit by Examination

1. CLEP/AP/IB/DANTES/STAMP – Examination credit through the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), the Advanced Placement Program (AP), the International Baccalaureate Program (IB), the Defense Activities for Non-Traditional Educational Support program (DANTES), and the Standards-Based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP), is granted by Aurora University as outlined in this catalog, to provide a means of measuring the academic achievement of those students who, through extensive reading and experience, may be able to meet the standards set as a basis for granting college credit.
2. Certification Exams – AU offers credit for many professional certification exams such as those offered by Cisco, CompTIA, ICDL, Microsoft, Oracle, SAS, and Sun. Refer to the American Council on Education (ACE) CREDIT Program. (<https://www.acenet.edu/national-guide/Pages/default.aspx>)
3. Prior approval of the University Registrar must be secured by filing a Petition for Prior Approval before current students take examinations for credit.
4. Limitations on Use:
 - a. No more than one-fourth of the courses presented for the major shall be by examination.
 - b. No more than 4 semester hours of examination credit may be used to meet the General English Composition requirement.
5. Fees
 - a. Students are expected to pay all fees required by testing agencies.
 - b. CLEP, AP, PEP, or NLN test credit earned while attending another institution and prior to attendance at Aurora University will not be assessed a recording fee.

Seal of Biliteracy

AU accepts the State Seal of Biliteracy. Incoming students receive eight hours of credit in the relevant language. Students who receive credit for the seal are not eligible for AP credit in the associated language. The student will be subject to the AU course placement policy for foreign language. A student must request credit for the seal at the point of enrollment at AU.

Seal of Biliteracy	Spanish	French	Other Languages
World Languages	SPN-1120 & SPN-1220 (8 SH)	FRN-1120 & FRN-1220 (8 SH)	Foreign Language Elective (8SH)

College Level Examination Program (CLEP) General Examinations

The General Examinations are designed to be taken before college work is begun. Students who have any college credits must seek prior approval. If courses have been taken prior to the test date, appropriate reductions in the amount of credit usually awarded will be made by the Office of the Registrar.

A student who has received CLEP credit in English cannot also receive college credit for ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing. A student who has received four semester hours of CLEP credit in mathematics may not take MTH-1100 College Algebra for college credit.¹ A student

who has received eight semester hours of CLEP credit in mathematics may not take MTH-1100 College Algebra or MTH-1310 Precalculus for college credit.¹

¹ **Note to CLEP Recipients Who Intend to Take Additional Mathematics Courses:** In some instances the results of the Aurora University Mathematics Competency Examination may suggest that a student needs to take one of the courses prohibited above. In that instance, a student should decide whether to take the course as an auditor, take the course for college credit and accept a reduction in CLEP credit, or proceed to the next level of mathematics with the understanding that he/she may have some difficulty.

CLEP Subject Examinations – Credit cannot be awarded if a student has had classroom credit in the subject area. Students who have any college credits must seek prior approval. The following options are available:

College Level Examination Program (CLEP) – Aurora University awards appropriate credit from the College Level Examination Program.

Composition and Literature

Subject	Score (Minimum)	AU Credit (4SH)
American Literature	50	ENG-2420 or ENG-2430
Analyzing/Interpreting Lit	50	English Elective
College Composition	50	ENG-1000
College Composition Modular	50	Does Not Transfer (DNT)
English Literature	50	ENG-2520 or ENG-2530
Humanities	50	General Elective

World Languages

Subject	Score (Minimum)	AU Credit (4SH)
French Language: Levels 1&2	50	FRN-1120, FRN-1220 (8 SH)
German Language: Levels 1&2	50	Foreign Language Elective (8 SH)
Spanish Language: Levels 1&2	50	SPN-1120, SPN-1220 (8 SH)
Spanish w/ Writing: Levels 1&2	50	SPN-2200, SPN-2300 (8 hours)

History and Social Sciences

Subject	Score (Minimum)	AU Credit (4SH)
American Govt.	50	PSC-1300
History of the U.S. I: to 1877	50	HIS-1200
History of the U.S. II: 1865 - Present	50	HIS-1210
Human Growth/ Development	50	PSY-3250
Intro to Educational Psych	50	EDU-2260
Introductory Psychology	50	PSY-1100
Introductory Sociology	50	SOC-1100
Principles of Macroeconomics ¹	50	Economics Elective

Principles of Microeconomics ¹	50	Economics Elective
Social Sciences/History	50	Social Behavior Science Elective
Western Civ I: to 1648	50	History Elective
Western Civ II: 1648 - Present	50	History Elective

¹ If Microeconomics and Macroeconomics are both successfully completed, 4SH of credit will be awarded for ECN-2030 Principles of Economics and 4SH of credit will be awarded in Economics elective credit.

Sciences and Mathematics

Subject	Score (Minimum)	AU Credit (4SH)
Biology	50	BIO-1210/BIO-1210Z
Precalculus	50	MTH-1310
Calculus	50	MTH-2210
Chemistry	50	CHM-1200/CHM-1200Z
College Algebra	50	MTH-1100
College Mathematics	50	MTH-1030
Natural Sciences	50	General Elective

Business

Subject	Score (Minimum)	AU Credit (4SH)
Financial Accounting	50	ACC-2010
Information Systems	50	CSC-1010
Introductory Business Law	50	BUS-2010
Principles of Management	50	Business Elective
Principles of Marketing	50	MKT-2300

DANTES Test Credit

Aurora University accepts appropriate credit from the DANTES testing program. Subject areas are accepted if they meet the general requirements for acceptance of other forms of credit (i.e., are nontechnical in nature, are in technical fields otherwise deemed appropriate for inclusion in the student's degree, or meet other guidelines for transfer of technical credit).

Advanced Placement Program (AP)

Aurora University awards appropriate credit from the Advanced Placement Program.

Capstone Diploma Program

AP Exam	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Research	n/a	Does Not Transfer (DNT)
Seminar	n/a	Does Not Transfer (DNT)

Arts

AP Exam	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Studio Art: 2-D Design	3, 4, 5	ART-1210
Studio Art: 3-D Design	3, 4, 5	ART-1310
Art History	3, 4, 5	Art Elective

Studio Art: Drawing	3, 4, 5	ART-2100
Music Theory	3, 4, 5	MUS-2600

English

AP Exam	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
English Lang/Comp	3, 4, 5	ENG-1000
English Lit/Comp	3, 4, 5	English Elective

History and Social Sciences

AP Exam	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Comparative Govt./Politics	3, 4, 5	Political Science Elective
European History	3, 4, 5	History Elective
Human Geography	3, 4, 5	Social Behavior Science Elective
Macroeconomics ¹	3, 4, 5	Economics Elective
Microeconomics ¹	3, 4, 5	Economics Elective
Psychology	3, 4, 5	PSY-1100
U.S. Govt./Politics	3, 4, 5	PSC-1300
U.S. History	3, 4	HIS-1200
U.S. History	5	HIS-1200, HIS-1210 (8 SH)
World History	3, 4	HIS-1300
World History	5	HIS-1300, HIS-1400 (8 SH)

¹ If Microeconomics and Macroeconomics are both successfully completed, 4SH of credit will be awarded for ECN-2030 Principles of Economics and 4SH of credit will be awarded in Economics elective credit.

Math and Computer Science

AP Exam	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Calculus AB	3, 4, 5	MTH-2210
Calculus BC	3	MTH-2210
Calculus BC	4, 5	MTH-2210, MTH-2220 (8 SH)
Computer Science A	3, 4, 5	CSC-1700
Computer Science Principles	3, 4, 5	CSC-1010
Statistics	3, 4, 5	MTH-2100

Sciences

AP Exam	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Biology	3	BIO-1210/BIO-1210Z
Biology	4, 5	BIO-1210/BIO-1210Z, BIO-1220/BIO-1220Z (8SH)
Chemistry	3	CHM-1200/CHM-1200Z
Chemistry	4, 5	CHM-1310/CHM-1310Z
Environmental Science	3, 4, 5	BIO-2200
Physics 1: Algebra Based	3, 4, 5	PHY-2210/PHY-2210Z
Physics 2: Algebra Based	3, 4, 5	PHY-2220/PHY-2220Z

Physics C: E&M	3, 4, 5	PHY-2250/PHY-2250Z
Physics C: Mech	3, 4, 5	PHY-2240/PHY-2240Z

World Languages & Culture

AP Exam	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Chinese Lang/Culture	3, 4, 5	Foreign Language Elective (8SH)
French Lang/Culture	3, 4, 5	FRN-1120, FRN-1220 (8SH)
German Lang/Culture	3, 4, 5	Foreign Language Elective (8SH)
Italian Lang/Culture	3, 4, 5	Foreign Language Elective (8SH)
Japanese Lang/Culture	3, 4, 5	Foreign Language Elective (8SH)
Latin	3, 4, 5	Foreign Language Elective (8SH)
Spanish Lang/Culture	3, 4, 5	SPN-1120, SPN-1220 (8SH)
Spanish Lit/Culture	3, 4, 5	Spanish Elective

International Baccalaureate Program (IB)

Aurora University awards appropriate credit from the International Baccalaureate Program (IB).

Arts

Higher Level (HL)	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Art History	n/a	Does Not Transfer (DNT)
Dance	n/a	Does Not Transfer (DNT)
Film	4, 5, 6, 7	COM-2300
Music	4, 5, 6, 7	MUS-1550
Theatre	4, 5, 6, 7	THE-1200
Visual Arts	4, 5, 6, 7	Art Elective
Philosophy	4, 5, 6, 7	PHL-1100

Sciences

Higher Level (HL)	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Biology	4, 5, 6, 7	BIO-1210/BIO-1210Z
Chemistry	4, 5	CHM-1310/CHM-1310Z
Chemistry	6, 7	CHM-1310/CHM-1310Z, CHM-1320/CHM-1320Z (8SH)
Computer Science	4, 5, 6, 7	CSC-1010, CSC-1700 (8SH)
Math: Analysis/Approaches	4, 5, 6, 7	MTH-1310, MTH-2210 (8SH)
Math: Applications/Interpret	4, 5, 6, 7	MTH-2100, MTH-2210 (8SH)
Physics	4, 5, 6, 7	PHY-2210/PHY-2210Z, PHY-2220/PHY-2220Z (8SH)

English

Higher Level (HL)	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Language A: English Lit	4, 5, 6, 7	English Elective
Language A: Lang/Lit	4, 5, 6, 7	Foreign Language Elective or ENG-1000
Language B: Other than English	n/a	See Foreign Languages

Foreign Languages

Higher Level (HL)	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Classical Languages	4, 5, 6, 7	Foreign Language Elective (8SH)
French	4, 5, 6, 7	FRN-1120, FRN-1220 (8SH)
German	4, 5, 6, 7	Foreign Language Elective (8SH)
Spanish	4, 5, 6, 7	SPN-1120, SPN-1220 (8SH)

Social Sciences

Higher Level (HL)	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Economics	4, 5, 6, 7	ECN-2030
Geography	4, 5, 6, 7	General Elective
Global Politics	4, 5, 6, 7	General Elective
American History	4, 5, 6, 7	HIS-1200, HIS-1210 (8SH)
World History	4, 5, 6, 7	HIS-1300, HIS-1400 (8SH)
Psychology	4, 5, 6, 7	PSY-1100
Social/Cultural Anthropology	4, 5, 6, 7	SOC-2150

Business

Higher Level (HL)	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Business Management	4, 5, 6, 7	BUS-1020

Other

Higher Level (HL)	Score	AU Credit (4SH)
Design Technology	n/a	Does Not Transfer (DNT)
Sports, Exercise, Health Science	n/a	Does Not Transfer (DNT)

Credit for Departmental Challenge Examinations

In those cases where no nationally-normed examination is available or appropriate to support the awarding of credit in a subject area required in a major, the program faculty may establish a departmental challenge examination for the awarding of a maximum of four (4) semester hours to be used in lieu of a specific major course. Such examinations are subject to the same approval process as that prevailing for new courses. A testing fee for such examinations will be established by the Vice President for Finance. Students may present for graduation a maximum of eight (8) semester hours by departmental challenge examinations; such credit may be applied only toward major requirements and does not meet other general degree requirements. Departmental challenge credit shall be designated as lower or upper division by the program faculty.

Declaration of Major

Students who have been accepted under the general admission standards of the university may apply for acceptance into a program of the university. Acceptance of any student into any program of the university is determined by the faculty of that program and is conditional upon the student's meeting any program requirements that have received the approval of the program faculty and the university.

Students applying for admission to the university, or who have been admitted and are attending as undeclared students, may state their intent to major in a program of the university. This statement of intent is used for purposes of evaluating transfer credit and providing appropriate advising services, but does not constitute admission to the program.

Matriculated traditional undergraduate students on the Aurora campus seeking to enter a program must file a Request to Declare or Change a Major form with the Crouse Center for Academic Advising. Requirements for admission to or retention in a program are determined by the program faculty, the Academic Dean, and the Chief Academic Officer.

Matriculated traditional undergraduate students on the Aurora campus currently entered as students in one program may seek to declare another major by filing a Request to Declare or Change a Major form showing both the old and new program. A student denied admission to a program may appeal the denial to the Academic Dean or, in the case of a program directly headed by the Dean, to the Chief Academic Officer.

A student may be dismissed from a program in accordance with duly approved requirements for retention in the program by action of the program faculty. Students so dismissed may appeal to the Academic Dean or to the Chief Academic Officer, in the case of a program directly headed by the Academic Dean. Copies of the action for dismissal from a program shall be forwarded to the Office of the Registrar and the Crouse Center for Academic Advising. The student will then be removed from the program and entered as undeclared.

Regulations Governing Majors and Minors

Established Majors

1. Majors require a minimum of 30 semester hours.
2. Each major must be developed and monitored by an approved program committee of the faculty; new or substantially revised majors require the approval of the Board of Trustees based on recommendations from the program committee, the appropriate school/college governance bodies, the Academic Dean, appropriate university governance bodies, the Chief Academic Officer, and the President.
3. Beyond the minimum coursework requirement, the content, structure, and extent of a major are prerogatives of the individual program committees within the schools and colleges of the university, except as otherwise defined or restricted by the academic regulations.
4. No "D" grade may apply to an academic major, either on the required or selected list. Secondary Education licensure candidates must earn a "C" or better in all education courses (with an EDU prefix) required by the State of Illinois.

Student-Initiated Major

1. Divisional: This major is prepared jointly between the student and the Program Chair. Said concentration is reviewed and approved by the Program Chair and Academic Dean. An initial conference should be held with the appropriate Program Chair at which time the general plan for the student-initiated major will be reviewed. Subsequent conferences with the Program Chair or his/her designate(s) will be concerned with developing the specific program. When completed, the Program Chair will present the concentration to the Academic Dean for approval and filed in the student's permanent academic record.
2. Interdivisional: This major is developed by the student and Program Chair with appropriate consultation from the Academic Dean and University Registrar. An initial conference with the Program Chair should be held at which time the general plan for the student-initiated major will be discussed. Subsequent conferences with the Program Chair, Academic Dean, and University Registrar will be concerned with developing the specific program. When completed, the program will be presented for approval by the Program Chair, Academic Dean, and University Registrar whereupon it will be filed in the student's permanent academic record.
3. At least half the courses in a student-initiated major must remain to be earned at the time the concentration is presented for approval.

Regulations Governing Minors

1. Minors at Aurora University are optional. They are not required for graduation.
2. A minor shall comprise a minimum of 18 semester hours.
3. At least 25% of the credits applied to a minor must be earned at AU.
4. Each minor must be developed and monitored by an approved program committee of the faculty; new or substantially revised minors require the approval of the Board of Trustees based on recommendations from the program committee, the appropriate school/college governance bodies, the Academic Dean, appropriate university governance bodies, the Chief Academic Officer, and the President.
5. Beyond the minimum coursework requirement, the content, structure, and extent of a minor are prerogatives of the individual program committees within the schools and colleges of the university, except as otherwise defined or restricted by the academic regulations.
6. No "D" will apply toward minors.
7. A maximum of four (4) semester hours of credit/no credit coursework will apply toward a minor.

Academic Measurement and Evaluation

Academic Measurement and Evaluation

No fractional amount of credit is given for less than completion of any course or academic experience.

Grades

Undergraduate Grading System Types and Definitions

At the end of the course, grades are awarded as defined:

a. Letter Grades - A, B, C, D, F

Grade	Quality Points per Semester Hour	Description
A	4	Denotes performance that consistently exceeds expectations and demonstrates comprehensive understanding of the subject.
B	3	Denotes performance that meets and at times exceeds expectations and indicates good preparation in the subject.
C	2	Denotes performance that meets expectations and demonstrates adequate preparation in the subject
D	1	Denotes performance that is inadequate or inconsistently meets expectations and makes it inadvisable to proceed further in the subject without additional work.
F	0	Denotes performance that is inadequate or inconsistently meets expectations and makes it inadvisable to proceed further in the subject without additional work.

b. Credit/No Credit: CR/NCR

Grade	Quality Points per Semester Hour	Description
CR	(quality points not calculated in grade point average)	Pass. Denotes pass with credit at least at the level of "C" work, in courses that are graded CR/NCR.
NCR	0	No credit. Denotes work that fails to meet college or university standards for academic performance at least at the level of "C" work.

c. Pass/No Pass: P/NP¹

Grade	Quality Points per Semester Hour	Description
P	(quality points not calculated in grade point average)	Pass. Denotes pass with credit at least at the level of "D" work, in courses that are graded P/NP.
NP	(quality points not calculated in grade point average)	No Pass. Denotes work that fails to meet college or university standards for academic performance at least at the level of "D" work.

¹ The P/NP grading basis is made available only under special circumstances that are clearly delineated by faculty and the university administration.

Students are reminded that, with the exception of courses that are offered only on a CR/NCR basis, no courses in the major may be completed under this grading system. Only one selected course in a minor may be taken under this system. Students are also urged to consider any regulations concerning academic honors, scholarship eligibility, or tuition refund plans which may be affected by use of this grading system. Certain courses (for example, University Chorale) are available only under the CR/NCR grading system. Students may enroll for no more than one course per term, up to a total of eight courses, on a CR/NCR basis. This is in addition to any courses that are offered only on a CR/NCR basis.

Graduate Grading System - Types and Definitions - Letter Evaluation: A, B, C, F

At the end of the course, grades are awarded as defined:

a. Letter Grades - A, B, C, F

Grade	Quality Points per Semester Hour	Description
A	4	Excellent. Denotes work that is consistently at the highest level of achievement in a graduate college or university course.
B	3	Good. Denotes work that consistently meets the high level of college or university standards for academic performance in a graduate college or university course.
C	2	The lowest passing grade. Denotes work that does not meet in all respects college or university standards for academic performance in a graduate college or university course.

F	0	Failure. Denotes work that fails to meet graduate college or university standards for academic performance in a course.
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b. Credit/No Credit: CR/NCR

Grade	Quality Points per Semester Hour	Description
CR	(quality points not calculated in grade point average)	Pass. Denotes pass with credit at least at the level of "C" work, in graduate courses that are graded CR/NCR
NCR	0	No credit. Denotes work that fails to meet graduate college or university standards for academic performance at least at the level of "C" work.

c. Pass/No Pass: P/NP¹

Grade	Quality Points per Semester Hour	Description
P	(quality points not calculated in grade point average)	Pass. Denotes pass with credit at least at the level of "C" work, in courses that are graded P/NP.
NP	(quality points not calculated in grade point average)	No Pass. Denotes work that fails to meet college or university standards for academic performance at least at the level of "C" work.

¹ The P/NP grading basis is made available only under special circumstances that are clearly delineated by faculty and the university administration.

Students are reminded that, with the exception of courses that are offered only on a CR/NCR basis, no graduate courses may be completed under this grading system.

Change of Grading System

Students may change between the letter grade system and credit/no credit grading system by filing a general petition with the Office of the Registrar at any time up until the end of the first calendar week of the term. No changes will be authorized beyond that date.

Incomplete Grades – Regulations and Procedures

Aurora University permits the assignment of an Incomplete (I) grade under limited circumstances upon petition by the student.

1. A grade of "I" may be assigned by the instructor only if the student has filed a Petition for Incomplete/Deferred Grade form. This petition form, which is available on the Office of the Registrar webpage (<https://aurora.edu/about/administration/registrar/registrar-forms.html>), must be completed and signed by the student, the instructor, Jurisdictional Academic Dean, and Office of Academic Affairs.
2. The petition must specify the reason the student has been unable to complete the work, the work to be completed, a timetable for completion, and the date by which all work must be turned in to the instructor.
3. The Petition for Incomplete/Deferred Grade must be filed by the deadline specified by the Office of the Registrar for submission of final grades.
4. Completion dates for "I" grades must be on or before the last day of the fourteenth week of classes of the term following the term in which the grade is assigned, excluding the Summer Session. In the event that a final grade is not reported to the Office of the Registrar on or before noon on the Tuesday following the completion deadline (Tuesday of week 15), the grade will revert to an "F" or "NCR". Instructors report grades to replace "I" grades in writing to the Office of the Registrar using the Change of Grade form located on SpartanNet (<https://aurora.edu/au/faculty/handbook.html>).
5. In extraordinary circumstances, the instructor may, upon receiving written documentation from the student, petition for an extension beyond the deadline established in section 4. Such petitions must be filed with the Office of Academic Affairs on or before the deadline for completion originally specified in the petition for an "I" grade. Petitions approved by the Office of Academic Affairs must be received by the Office of the Registrar on or before the original deadline for filing of the grade.
6. A grade of "I" may be assigned only in cases of illness, accident, or other catastrophic occurrence beyond the student's control. In order for an "I" grade to be considered, the student must be in satisfactory academic standing in the specific course. In cases of emergency, the petition may be filed on the student's behalf by the course instructor. At the earliest possible time, the course instructor will take responsibility for confirming the petition with the student and securing the student's signature. If the student does not accept the conditions of the petition, the instructor will assign a permanent grade to be entered by the Office of the Registrar.
7. A student's Academic Warning status in a given term will be determined by the Term GPA resulting from the work completed in that term. If a subsequently completed "I" grade causes the student's GPA to rise above or fall below 2.0, the student's warning status, and the permanent record thereof, will be changed accordingly.
8. In the case of an approved voluntary or involuntary leave of absence, the original deadline for completion of work will be maintained unless an extension is approved by the Office of Academic Affairs. A leave of absence does not automatically extend the completion deadline for the "I" grade.

Deferred Grade Policy – Regulations and Procedures

A deferred grade (X) is for use in certain courses in which it is anticipated that the student's learning experience will continue beyond a regular academic term. The deferred grade is available for use in the cases of travel study, field experiences, clinical experiences, practica, internships,

student teaching, independent study, application or research projects, and sequential courses for which a deferred grading situation has been contracted at the initiation of the experience.

1. A grade of "X" may be assigned by the instructor only if the student has filed a Petition for Incomplete/Deferred Grade form. This petition form, which is available on the Office of the Registrar's webpage (<https://aurora.edu/about/administration/registrar/registrar-forms.html>), must be completed and signed by the student, the Instructor, Jurisdictional Executive Director or Dean, and Office of Academic Affairs.
2. The petition must specify the reason the deferred grade is needed, the work to be completed, a timetable for completion, and the date by which all work must be turned in to the Instructor.
3. The Petition for Incomplete/Deferred Grade form must be filed by the deadline specified by the Office of the Registrar for submission of final grades.
4. In the event that a course or other learning experience is planned to extend beyond the academic term, the student(s) enrolled will be given a deferred grade "X" at the end of the term. The permanent grade will be posted when received from the instructor, and by the expiration of the "X" grade petition.
5. Completion dates for "X" grades must be on or before the last day of the fourteenth week of the term following the term in which the grade is assigned, excluding the Summer Session. In the event that a final grade is not reported to the Office of the Registrar on or before noon on the Tuesday following the completion deadline (Tuesday of week 15), the grade will revert to an "F" or "NCR". Instructors report grades to replace "X" grades in writing to the Office of the Registrar using the Change of Grade form located on SpartanNet (<https://aurora.edu/au/faculty/handbook.html>).
6. In extraordinary circumstances, the instructor may, upon receiving written documentation from the student, petition for an extension beyond the deadline established in section 5. Such petitions must be filed with the Dean of Academic Administration on or before the deadline for completion originally specified in the petition for an "X" grade. Petitions approved by the Office of Academic Affairs must be received by the Office of the Registrar on or before the original deadline for filing of the grade.
7. Tuition for multi-term courses or other learning experiences is billed and payable with respect to the first term of registration, and the course counts in the student's load only in the first term of registration. No additional registration process is required during subsequent terms while the course is being completed.
8. A deferred grade "X" has no effect on the student's GPA and is not considered by the Academic Standards Committee or other university bodies in the review of student progress. When the permanent grade is posted, the effect of this grade will be assessed by university review bodies as though the grade were part of the work completed in the term when the grade is posted.
9. In the case of an approved voluntary or involuntary leave of absence, the original deadline for completion of work will be maintained unless an extension is approved by the Office of Academic Affairs. A leave of absence does not automatically extend the completion deadline for the "X" grade.

The "D" Grade

A grade of "D" cannot be applied to an undergraduate major without the approval of the University Registrar in consultation with the Jurisdictional Academic Dean or the Office of Academic Affairs. Aurora University

reserves the right to require a student to repeat a course in which he/she has received a grade of "D" if he/she proposes to apply that course toward a major or continue on in a truly sequential course of study. Students who receive a grade of "D" in a prerequisite course are encouraged to repeat the course prior to matriculation into the sequential course.

Change of Permanent Grades

1. Permanent grades (A, B, C, D, F) may be changed by the instructor who originally issued the grade to correct computational or clerical errors.
2. Changes of permanent grades must be approved by the Academic Dean before they are forwarded to the Office of the Registrar, and must include an explanation for the change.
3. Changes in permanent grades arising from clerical or computational errors must be received by the Office of the Registrar no later than 30 days following the date when the original permanent grade was filed with the Office of the Registrar.
4. In cases where it is necessary to correct a grading error on the part of an instructor who has left the university or who cannot otherwise be contacted in a timely fashion, or in cases where an instructor fails to correct an evident error in a timely fashion, the Academic Dean may assign another faculty member to review the relevant materials and correct the error.
5. Changes may be made in grades to reflect coursework completed after the deadline for grade submission only in instances in which the student received a grade of "I" or "X" for the course.
6. All changes in permanent grades other than those arising from clerical or computational errors are addressed under the university regulations for appeal of alleged capricious grading.

Grade Point Average

Two Grade Point Averages (GPA) are calculated by the Registrar:

Term GPA — A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0, NCR=0, CR=Not Calculated into GPA. Based only on courses taken in a given term at Aurora University, the unit of credit is multiplied by the quality points assigned to the grade earned. The sums are then added and the total quality points divided by the calculable credit units producing the Term GPA. (If a course is repeated only the higher grade is calculated into the GPA and only academic credit from one can be counted toward graduation.)

Cumulative GPA of Courses at Aurora University — Calculated in the same way as the Term GPA but is based upon all work taken at Aurora University over all terms of attendance. Since fall 1990, only work completed at Aurora University has been included in the cumulative GPA of Aurora University students. Calculations of GPA for work at previous colleges are carried out by the Office of Admission for purposes of determining admission and merit scholarship eligibility and by the Office of the Registrar for purposes of student classification and to provide data for the financial aid process. No calculation of GPA including work at previous colleges is maintained as part of the student's official academic record.

Undergraduate Academic Honors

Academic Honors at Graduation

1. To be eligible for academic honors at graduation, students must have:
 - a. A minimum of 90 semester hours of credit for a letter grade, of which 30 semester hours must have been earned at Aurora University.
 - b. A cumulative GPA at Aurora University of:
 - i. 3.50 – 3.749 to receive the degree Cum Laude
 - ii. 3.75 – 3.899 to receive the degree Magna Cum Laude
 - iii. 3.90 – 4.000 to receive the degree Summa Cum Laude
 - c. In addition, a student who has a minimum of 90 semester hours for a letter grade at Aurora University and a cumulative GPA at Aurora University of 3.75 or above will receive the Gold Ivy Leaf Award (medallion).
2. Term Dean's List – Students will be placed on the published Dean's List and receive a letter from the Chief Academic Officer at the end of each fall or spring semester that these conditions are met:
 - a. Students with a term GPA of 4.0 will be cited for High Honors in a special section of the Dean's List.
 - b. A term GPA of 3.60 or higher.
 - c. A minimum of 12 semester hours for a letter grade.

Procedures for Use in the Student Initiated Appeal of a Course Grade

A student has the right to appeal a course grade if they feel that the grade was assigned capriciously. Capricious grading is the only rationale for a grade appeal. A student may not appeal a grade based on a disagreement about grading criteria or concerns about the judgment of the faculty member.

Capricious grading, as that term is used herein, is limited to one or more of the following:

1. the assignment of a grade on some basis other than performance in the course; or
2. the assignment of a grade to a particular student by different standards than were applied to other students in that course; or
3. the assignment of a grade using standards other than those that the students had been led to reasonably expect would be used to judge their work.

The evaluation of the quality of a student's academic performance in participation in class and on assignments that the student turns in is one of the primary professional responsibilities of university faculty members; it is solely and properly their responsibility. It is essential for the standards of the academic programs at Aurora University and the integrity of the degrees conferred by this university that the professional judgments of faculty members not be subject to inappropriate pressures or other interference.

It is necessary, however, that any course grade be based on evidence of the student's performance in that course, that the student have access to the evidence, that the instructor be willing to explain and interpret the evidence to the student, and that a grade be determined in accordance with announced standards. These standards must be announced and put in writing for each class at the beginning of each term. While the standards for evaluation used in a course may change during a course as the faculty member judges to be appropriate based on the performance of the students, changes to guidelines for evaluation during a course should be as minimal as is possible and must be announced to the students in advance of the application of the new standards.

It is never appropriate for a faculty member to retroactively alter the standards that have been applied to work that has already been turned in.

Appeal Procedures:

A student who believes his/her term grade is capricious may seek clarification and, where appropriate, redress, as follows:

1. The student shall confer with the Instructor, informing the Instructor of questions concerning the grade, and seeking to understand fully the grounds and procedures the Instructor has used in determining the grade. The aim of such a conference is to reach mutual understanding about the grade, the process by which it was assigned, and to correct errors, if any, in the grade. The student should do this within two weeks of receiving his/her final grade.
2. If after consultation with the Instructor, the student believes that a grade was assigned capriciously, the student shall confer with the Jurisdictional Chair, who shall consult and advise with both the Instructor and student separately or together, in an effort to reach an understanding and resolution of the matter.
3. If Steps 1 or 2 do not resolve the problem, the student may submit a petition in writing to the Jurisdictional Dean. This petition must be submitted to the Dean not later than the end of the fourth week of the term following that for which the grade is being appealed, excluding the summer term.

The petition shall request a meeting with the Dean and shall present evidence that the grade is capricious as defined above, and shall present the student's arguments that substantiate his/her conclusions. The Dean shall refer the petition to the Instructor and secure from the Instructor a response in writing, setting forth the Instructor's position on the matter.

On the basis of a consideration of the student's petition and the Instructor's response, the Dean shall conduct an inquiry, which shall include a meeting with the student and the Instructor separately or together and ascertain and consider relevant facts.

Decision:

The Dean shall make one of these decisions:

1. That the grade was not assigned capriciously and shall stand as assigned.
2. That the grade was assigned capriciously and should be changed. The Dean shall then assign a new grade. The Dean may involve another faculty member with appropriate professional qualifications to review the work of the student and recommend a new grade. The Dean shall authorize the Registrar to make the grade change.

The result of either shall be final.

Transcripts: Regulations Governing Issuance

1. Official transcripts bearing the signature of the University Registrar and seal of the university for purposes of transfer of credit, certification, or employment reference are issued by direct mail or electronically to educational institutions, certification agents, and employers. Students may supply application forms or other supportive documents to be enclosed with official transcripts.
2. All official transcripts that are placed into a student's hands or sent directly to students are stamped "Issued to Student."

3. A student's academic record is considered confidential. Therefore, transcripts will be issued only at the written and signed request of an individual student, or appropriate institutions or officials.
4. Each transcript is issued as a complete and accurate copy of the student's academic record as of the date of issue. It contains a record of all work attempted, together with a notation as to final grades earned, or drop status achieved, in each course. It shows total number of credits accepted in transfer from other colleges or universities. High school credits and test scores are not transmitted. Grade point averages are computed and reported with appropriate explanation as to the means of calculation.
5. Aurora University has no authority to copy or release transcripts furnished to it from other institutions for admission or evaluation of credit. Transcripts from other institutions or testing agencies must always be obtained from the issuing institution or agency.
6. Transcripts will be withheld until the student's financial obligations to the university are resolved. While an Accounts Receivable (AR) hold is in place, official transcripts may only be released directly to potential employers or other approved third parties.
7. In cases of suspension, dismissal, and expulsion (or the equivalent), the transcript will be noted with the following:
 - a. The general type of infraction (academic or disciplinary);
 - b. The department initiating the student's separation from the institution; and
 - c. The effective dates or date/term ranges of student's separation from the institution, if applicable.
8. A transcript legend is included with each official transcript.

Undergraduate Student Classification and Definition

Each student who registers for a course at Aurora University will be classified. Classification will be made at the time of entry to the university and reclassification will be made every semester, or if a student shifts from a non-degree classification to a degree or certificate classification.

Classification	Definition
FR Freshman	Admitted with less than 30 semester hours
SO Sophomore	Admitted and 30-59 semester hours
JR Junior	Admitted and 60-89 semester hours
SR Senior	Admitted and 90+ semester hours
PU Post-Undergraduate	With Bachelor's Degree seeking second Degree or Certificate
AL Student-at-Large	Not Admitted and Not Seeking Degree (may earn no more than 15 semester hours)
AU Auditor	Not Admitted and Taking Courses Without Credit
PR Provisional	Attending classes but admission procedures incomplete

Graduate Student Classification and Definition

Each student who registers for a course at Aurora University will be assigned a classification. Classification will be made at the time of entry to the university and reclassification will be made every semester, or if a

student shifts from a non-degree classification to a degree or certificate classification.

Classification	Definition
G1	First-year graduate student (less than 18 semester hours)
G2	Second-year graduate student (18 or more semester hours)
G3	First-year doctoral student
G4	Second-year doctoral student
PG	Post Graduate (with master's or doctoral degree seeking second degree or certificate)
GA	Student-at-Large (not admitted and not seeking degree (may earn no more than six semester hours))
AU	Auditor (not admitted and taking courses without credit)
PR	Provisional (attending classes but admission procedures incomplete)

Graduation Policies and Procedures

Application for Graduation Status

1. Each candidate who has an anticipated completion date within the current academic year will submit an Application for Graduation via Self-Service. An exception to this are the doctoral candidates who must apply for graduation only AFTER successful defense of their dissertation through their department. Submitting an Application for Graduation does not guarantee graduation, as notation of degree is driven by completion of degree requirements.
2. Applications must be submitted by the deadline indicated on the application together with the graduation fee.
3. There are annual commencement ceremonies at the end of both the fall and spring semesters. Students with a summer completion date should consult the Commencement web page (<https://aurora.edu/commencement/>) regarding commencement options. The application deadlines and schedules are available on the Commencement web page (<https://aurora.edu/commencement/>).

Transcripts, Examination Credit, Life and Vocational Credit, Portfolio Assessment Credit, Incompletes, Deferred Grades

Candidates for graduation must have all official transcripts from other institutions; results of examination scores; Life and Vocational Experience credit; portfolio credit; and removal of temporary grades (incompletes or deferred grades) submitted to the Office of the Registrar by the fifth week of the term prior to the end of the term in which they plan to graduate. The exception will be for summer candidates for graduation. Official transcripts must be received by Aurora University on or before the last day of the term in which a student plans to graduate. Failure to receive these transcripts by that date will mean that the student's graduation status will be deferred to the next term, even though the student may have already participated in the ceremony.

Completion of Degree Requirements

Aurora University confers (awards) degrees six times each academic year. The conferral date corresponds to the last day of the semester or term. Students completing all degree requirements prior to the conferral date may request from the Office of the Registrar a letter of degree completion including the anticipated conferral date for purposes of employment. Some, but not all, employers will accept the degree completion letter until the official AU transcript showing the degree conferred is available.

Participation in Commencement Ceremonies

Students must comply with all of the above regulations in order to receive their diploma and to participate in the commencement ceremonies. Students planning to graduate should give special attention to their progress in their final semester courses.

It should further be noted that it is the responsibility of the student to make satisfactory arrangements with the Student Accounts Office for all outstanding debts prior to degree conferral and the commencement ceremony. Those students who have not completed such arrangements to the satisfaction of the Student Accounts Office will not receive their diploma until the debt is resolved.

Graduating in Absentia

Participation in the commencement ceremony is voluntary (although we do need to know the student's decision beforehand for planning purposes). Those who choose not to participate in person will graduate in absentia.

To Receive Diplomas

In order to receive a diploma, students must complete all degree requirements satisfactorily and be current in all financial obligations to the university.

Awarding of Posthumous Degrees

Aurora University may confer posthumous baccalaureate and graduate degrees upon students deceased prior to but nearing formal completion of all degree requirements being pursued.

1. Eligibility: To be eligible for the award of an Aurora University degree posthumously, the student generally must have met the following criteria:

- Been enrolled in undergraduate or graduate degree programs at Aurora University at the time of their death (summer excluded), or their continuous enrollment was interrupted by their injury, illness, deployment, etc.
- Have earned a minimum of 75% of the undergraduate degree requirements. The graduate student must have completed at least 75% of the graduate degree requirements. For graduate degrees requiring a research project (dissertation or thesis), the student should have commenced the research process. Other criteria may be considered at the discretion of the Chief Academic Officer.
- Have been in good disciplinary, financial, and academic standing with the University.

2. An approved posthumous degree shall be awarded consistent with the regular degree conferral cycle of the University.

3. If a posthumous degree is awarded,

- The deceased student's name may be listed in the next Commencement Program, parenthetically noted "Posthumous."
- There also shall be a notation of the posthumous award on the transcript.

Posthumous Degree Award Procedure

The following procedures shall be used in reviewing requests for and awarding posthumous degrees:

- The request for the awarding of a posthumous degree may be initiated by the deceased student's family or friends. Requests also may be initiated by the Jurisdiction Dean or other academic administrator.
- The request must be in writing with a copy of the student death notification (e.g., state death notification form, newspaper article, funeral service program) and sent to the student's Academic Dean. Contact information of the requestor is required.
- The Academic Dean will contact the University Registrar, who will confirm eligibility.
- In consultation with the school's faculty, the Academic Dean shall recommend awarding the degree to the Chief Academic Officer.
- The determination that a posthumous degree is to be awarded shall be made by the Chief Academic Officer, subject to the President of the University's review and determination.
- Upon receiving a decision from the Chief Academic Officer, the Academic Dean or other designated University administrator shall notify the individual who made the original request of the decision. If the posthumous degree is approved, that party shall also be responsible for providing the details for the diploma presentation or availability.
- The President, Chief Academic Officer, and/or Academic Dean will make a personal presentation to the family. If a presentation is not possible or desired, the diploma may be made available to an appropriate family or another representative by the Office for Academic Affairs or Office of the President.

Financial Aid Rights and Responsibilities

This information is accurate at all Aurora University locations and subject to change without prior notice.

1. A student has the right to know the criteria used to determine his/her financial need and the aid he/she has been awarded. A student also has the right to decline any or all of the awarded aid.
2. Students must apply for financial aid every year. Aurora University highly recommends completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>) as soon as possible beginning October 1, 2024. Students turning in financial aid paperwork and completing their 2025-26 financial aid file after May 1, 2025, may incur late fees and/or penalties.
3. If a student has been selected for verification, he/she must submit requested items to the Office of Financial Aid. Verification must be completed before any financial aid, including loans, can be credited to

their account. Please Note: The verification process may take longer if FAFSA corrections are required. Corrections to FAFSA information may result in changes to a student's financial aid eligibility, which a student would be notified of via a revised financial aid offer letter.

4. Special Circumstance and Dependency Override Requests: There are times when a student may encounter a situation that is not reflected in the information requested on his/her FAFSA. If he/she has extenuating circumstances, he/she may complete a Special Circumstance or Dependency Override Request. The Office of Financial Aid reviews completed requests weekly. These forms are available **here** (<https://aurora.edu/admission/financialaid/forms/25-26.html>) under "Petitions and Appeals."
5. A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order to receive federal, state, and institutional financial aid. For additional information, refer to the Satisfactory Academic Progress Procedures (<https://aurora.edu/admission/financialaid/satisfactory-academic-progress.html>).
6. Definitions of Enrollment per Semester:

Type	Undergraduate	Graduate - Doctoral
Full-time	12 or more credits	6 or more credits
Three-quarter time	9 - 11 credits	5 credits
Half-time	6 - 8 credits	3 - 4 credits
Less than half-time	< 6 credits	< 3 credits
7. Definitions of Academic Level: A student's academic level is a factor in determining their Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Student Loan eligibility.

Academic Level	Credit Hours
Freshman	0 - 29 hours
Sophomore	30 - 59 hours
Junior	60 - 89 hours
Senior	90+ hours
8. Each student has a cost of attendance that is based on direct and indirect costs. **Direct costs** are those costs billed by the university. Your actual tuition and fee charges and housing and food charges (if living on campus) will reflect on your billing statement (e-Bill). **Indirect costs** are common school expenses that a student may incur while attending college. These are NOT billable costs, but these costs are taken into account when determining your eligibility for financial aid. Indirect costs are based on the costs experienced by the average student and can vary based on individual spending decisions. Specific direct charges can be found at Tuition and Fees (<https://aurora.edu/tuition/>), and cost of attendance by student academic level and program can be found on the Office of Financial Aid Page (<https://aurora.edu/admission/financialaid/>).
9. No federal or state aid will be awarded to a student who owes a refund or repayment on a Federal Pell Grant or Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) or who is in default on a Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Student Loan, Federal Direct PLUS Loan, or Federal Perkins Loan.
10. All financial aid received in excess of a student's need and/or cost of attendance must be returned/repaid. The total of any financial aid programs designated as applicable toward tuition only cannot exceed the direct cost of tuition.
11. If a student or other individual misreports information or alters documents to fraudulently obtain federal funds, this will result in the cancellation of aid and referral to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General.

12. The Student Accounts Office will apply federal and state financial aid to allowable charges such as tuition, fees, housing, and meal plan as well as authorized miscellaneous charges per the Financial Responsibility Agreement form. Excess funds, if applicable, will be refunded to the student and/or parent within 14 calendar days from when the credit balance becomes available. **If a student receives a refund of credit and then has a reduction in financial aid, adds additional classes, incurs additional charges, or withdraws from all courses, he/she is responsible for paying the outstanding balance.** If the student prefers to have any credit balance held on his/her student account during the academic year, he/she can arrange this with the Student Accounts Office.
13. A student's enrollment in a program of study abroad approved for credit by AU may be considered enrollment at AU for the purpose of applying for assistance under the FSA programs. The student must complete the Study Abroad Consortium Agreement Application and Contract.
14. Students are responsible for reporting any of the following to the Office of Financial Aid:
 - a. Change in enrollment
 - b. Change in living arrangements
 - c. Change in academic level
 - d. Receipt of tuition benefits/reimbursement from outside source
 - e. Receipt of an external scholarship
15. You will receive a more accurate offer letter for an academic year if you register up front for all of your classes. It is especially important to register for all modules in a semester before that semester begins.
16. Summer financial aid requires a separate institutional application in addition to the FAFSA for the applicable academic year. Applications will be available beginning in November. If eligible for summer aid, he/she will receive an offer letter. He/She will also be notified if he/she is not eligible for aid during the summer term. Notifications begin in March once registration opens. Additional items may need to be submitted if requested.
17. If borrowing a Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Student Loan for the first time, a student must complete an Entrance Counseling session. He/She must complete an Exit Counseling session if his/her enrollment falls below half time, prior to graduation, or upon leaving the university. At that time, he/she may contact the U.S. Department of Education to inquire about repayment and/or deferment of his/her federal loans. It is important for the student to recognize their obligation to repay loans.
18. A student's loan disbursement dates have been predetermined by AU. Students enrolled in a semester or a modular program will have one scheduled loan disbursement each semester of attendance. Summer semester loan disbursements are based on summer course dates. The student's loan disclosure statement from the U.S. Department of Education will indicate his/her anticipated disbursement dates and amounts. Students will be notified by the Student Accounts Office via their AU email accounts upon arrival of their loan disbursement(s). Students can manage their federal loans at studentaid.gov (<https://studentaid.gov>).
19. Tuition Refund Policy: Refer to the "Payment of Charges/ Fees/Promise to Pay" section of the Financial Responsibility Agreement form on the Student Accounts webpage for additional information. **Withdrawing from courses may reduce or eliminate financial aid based on a student's final enrollment.**
20. Housing and meal plan charges are subject to a different refund policy, which is determined by the Office of Residence Life.

21. A student's eligibility for financial aid may be affected if he/she withdraws from any or all of his/her classes. Check with the Office of Financial Aid before withdrawing from any classes. If a student makes the decision to withdraw from Aurora University at any time, the student utilizes the "Withdraw from Aurora University" or "Request an Academic Leave of Absence" links located in Self-Service.
22. Return of Federal Funds Policy: Students who receive Title IV funds and withdraw from classes up through the 60% point in a period of enrollment may no longer be eligible for the full amount of federal aid. Title IV (federal aid) includes: Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans, Federal Direct PLUS Loans, Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant. Additionally, students may be eligible for a post-withdrawal disbursement if, prior to withdrawing, the student earned more federal financial aid than was disbursed. Further details regarding the federal returns calculations are available in the Withdrawals and Return of Federal Title IV Funds policy at aurora.edu/returnfunds (<https://aurora.edu/admission/financialaid/withdrawals-and-return-of-title-iv-funds.html>) and the Office of Financial Aid.

This information is accurate at all Aurora University locations and subject to change without prior notice.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Procedures

When a student receives federal or state aid, federal guidelines require that the student makes progress toward his/her degree in order to continue to receive federal or state financial aid. This requirement is called Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).

The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy addresses the student's academic progress during all semesters of enrollment at Aurora University, including summer, whether or not financial aid was received during the semesters. At Aurora University, this policy applies to federal, state, and need-based institutional aid as well as institutional merit-based aid.

Policy Overview

There are three parts to the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy. Students need to comply with all requirements to remain eligible for aid, as explained in the following:

1. Qualitative Regulations – Grade Point Average (GPA)

The Satisfactory Academic Progress policy requires that the student maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) in order to remain eligible for financial aid.

Undergraduate Students: Undergraduate students must achieve a minimum total cumulative GPA of 2.0 by the end of the spring semester to be eligible for financial aid for any subsequent semesters.

Graduate Students: Graduate students must achieve a minimum total cumulative GPA of 3.0 by the end of the spring semester to be eligible for financial aid for any subsequent semesters.

2. Quantitative Regulations - Pace of Completion

The Satisfactory Academic Progress policy contains a quantitative component, meaning that a student is required to make steady progress toward their degree or aid-eligible non-degree program. Students must

complete at least two-thirds (66.67%) of all courses attempted to maintain quantitative eligibility for aid.

Example: A student was enrolled in 12 semester hours but completes only 7 semester hours. This student completed 58.33% of the courses and is therefore NOT maintaining SAP.

3. Academic Program Completion

Maximum Timeframe

Undergraduate Students: To earn a bachelor's degree at Aurora University, students must complete a minimum of 120 semester hours. Students may receive financial aid for up to 150% of the hours required to complete their program. For most undergraduate programs, the maximum is considered to be 180 credit hours. This includes hours earned at another institution and transferred to Aurora University, as well as any hours that may have been completed even if financial aid was not received.

If a student changes majors, courses previously completed may be included in the 150% completion rate. The student is expected to complete their program within the maximum timeframe. In limited circumstances appeals will be considered.

Timely Completion of Degree: Students enrolled in a graduate or aid-eligible non-degree program must complete the requirements for the program in the specified timeframe. Students who exceed the timeframe may not be eligible for aid and can appeal.

Degree Completion Requirement: Federal financial aid is limited to a student's degree requirements. Once a student has earned a degree, they can no longer receive federal or state aid with restrictions on institutional funds. This is accurate even if a student has not applied for graduation or the degree has not been officially conferred. Undergraduate students who are pursuing a double major or minor cannot receive aid once all degree requirements have been met for one undergraduate degree.

What Happens If A Student Falls Below the SAP Requirements?

Schools are required to monitor SAP at least once annually. Aurora University reviews SAP after the spring semester for all programs. Students that are in Suspension status will be sent a letter and email notifying them of their status and that they have the right to appeal.

Financial Aid Suspension

A student's financial aid is suspended if after the spring semester he/she fails to meet the minimum Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements for one or more of the following reasons:

1. The student is below the minimum cumulative GPA requirement for the student's academic level; and
2. The student is below the 66.67 % minimum course completion rate (Pace of completion).

A student's financial aid is also suspended if at any time:

1. The student failed to meet the requirements of their academic plan.
2. The student is a readmitted student or a first-time financial aid applicant and previous coursework is below the minimum Satisfactory Academic Progress threshold, and because of this the student would be ineligible for aid unless they successfully appeal.

3. The student has exceeded the maximum timeframe limits for their degree.

How to Appeal Financial Aid Suspension

If a student has been suspended from financial aid eligibility because of failure to meet the minimum SAP requirements, and he/she feels that severe, extenuating or unusual circumstances have kept them from making progress toward their degree, he/she may appeal.

To appeal, the student must submit to the Office of Financial Aid a completed **Appeal for All Aid form** (<http://www.aurora.edu/financialaidforms/>). The appeal should include all of the items below. Additional documentation may be requested in the review process.

1. Identify in Section 2 the circumstance(s) that kept the student from meeting the satisfactory academic progress standards in the past.
2. He/She must provide in the letter the following:
 - The circumstance(s) affecting his/her academics
 - When the circumstance(s) occurred
 - The duration of the circumstance(s)
 - How the circumstance affected the student's ability to complete their coursework
 - What has changed that will allow them to achieve future academic success
 - Specific steps they will take to ensure the university of their future academic success
3. Attach documentation that supports the appeal.

Appeals must be submitted by the first day of the academic term for which you are seeking reinstatement.

The student's appeal will be considered by University Officials and he/she will receive an email notifying the student of the outcome of their appeal.

If the appeal is **Approved**—The student will receive an academic plan. The academic plan will list specific semester requirements and what must be accomplished during the probationary semester to continue to receive financial aid in the following semester. The student's financial aid will be reinstated on a probationary status for the appropriate semester in accordance with federal, state and university regulations and processing requirements/deadlines, and the availability of funds. The academic plan will remain in place until the student has successfully reached the minimum requirements outlined as long as the minimum semester requirements are met.

If the appeal is **Denied**—The student may continue without federal, state and institutional financial aid, and appeal for reinstatement after the student has demonstrated progress towards earning their degree by improving their cumulative GPA and/or credit hour completion rate so that they are meeting the minimum requirements. Sometimes Private loans may be an option for a student to finance their tuition charges while their federal and state aid is suspended.

Submission of an appeal does not guarantee reinstatement of your eligibility.

Please note that academic or admission reinstatement does not constitute reinstatement of financial aid eligibility.

Definitions and Policies Related to Satisfactory Academic Progress

Attempted Credit Hours

All credit-bearing courses are calculated into the student's "hours attempted" for financial aid purposes. This means they are included in determining the pace of completion percentage as well as counting toward the 150% maximum timeframe eligibility. This includes:

- Accepted transfer credit (regardless of whether you received aid for the courses, and regardless of their treatment in the student's current AU degree requirements); note that credit earned through study abroad consortium or other consortium agreement is treated as transfer credit. Please note transfer credits are not included in the calculation of the student's GPA.
- Test credit
- Other types of academic credit
- Repeated courses

Successfully Completed Credit Hours

Courses with a passing grade (A, B, C, D, P, or CR) are considered to be successfully completed.

Courses with a non-passing grade (F, W, I, X, NP, or NCR) are considered to be not successfully completed.

Policy on Incompletes, Audits, Non-Credit Remedials, and Withdrawals

Aurora University will not allow incomplete, non-credit remedial, and withdrawal courses to be considered as credits successfully completed, but will consider them as courses attempted and therefore count them in the maximum timeframe.

Students who receive an Incomplete or Deferred Grade for a course while on SAP probation will be reviewed on an individual basis. Students in this situation are monitored in conjunction with the Registrar's Office for final grades, and then the files are evaluated as to progress. If needed, any required adjustment to their financial aid is made upon notification of the final grade.

Non-credit remedial courses are counted toward the minimum amount of courses required for financial aid eligibility.

Aurora University does not offer withdrawal pass and withdrawal fail courses.

Audited courses do not earn academic credit and are not eligible for financial aid payment. As such, they are not evaluated in the review of the student's satisfactory academic progress.

Withdrawal grades are considered to be not successfully completed, and negatively impact satisfactory academic progress. This includes official withdrawal grades W, which are not calculated in the grade point average, as well as unofficial withdrawals that result in the grade of an F which is calculated in the grade point average.

Impact of Dropping/Failing Courses

Though a student may receive Federal Title IV aid for retaking a course that had previously been dropped or failed, both the first and second attempts are counted toward the quantitative requirement (see item 2). This means that repeatedly withdrawing from and/or failing courses may negatively impact a student's quantitative progress (pace of

completion) over the long term and result in the student failing to meet SAP requirements.

Retaking Coursework

Students are eligible to repeat courses, but only the higher grade will be calculated in the GPA and credit towards graduation.

Federal regulations specify that you may not receive aid more than once for repeating a course previously passed, even if you are required to retake the course to fulfill degree requirements. For example, if you receive a “D” grade in a course and you are required to repeat the course to achieve a grade greater than a “D”, you may receive financial aid for only one repeat of the course.

Changing Programs of Study

As outlined in the academic catalog, students wishing to change programs of study (majors) need to complete a Declaration of Major form. The student is encouraged to meet with an academic advisor and a financial aid counselor. The student is expected to complete his/her program within the maximum timeframe. In limited circumstances, appeals will be considered.

Double Majors

As outlined in the academic catalog, students may pursue multiple majors. The student would need to complete the Declaration of Major form for both programs, and if approved, the student is encouraged to meet with an academic advisor and a financial aid counselor. The student is expected to complete the multiple majors within the maximum timeframe.

A student’s financial aid eligibility ends once all requirements for a first bachelor’s degree are met even if the requirements for the second or additional program have not been met.

Second Undergraduate Degree

Students pursuing a second undergraduate degree are eligible only for federal student loans at the undergraduate level. Students seeking a second undergraduate degree are subject to the maximum timeframe limit for undergraduate study.

This information is accurate at all Aurora University locations and subject to change without prior notice.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as Amended FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a federal statute, that took effect on November 19, 1974. Specifically, this statute governs:

- student access to records maintained by educational institutions
- release of such records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days after the day Aurora University receives a request for access.

Under the first heading, student access to records, the law requires all educational institutions to allow attending students and former students access to their personal records. A student is considered “in attendance” at Aurora University as of the official first day of the term in which the student is first enrolled.

- a. At Aurora University the records of attending students include the general file in graduate program office, the permanent academic record in the Office of the Registrar, financial records in the Student Accounts Office, the financial aid files in the Office of Financial Aid, and where appropriate, the files in the School of Education.
 - b. The files of former students are found in the Office of Alumni Relations, Office of the Registrar and, where appropriate, in the School of Education.
 - c. Specifically exempted from viewing by the student are the financial records of students’ parents and the confidential recommendations and statements written for and placed in the file prior to January 1, 1975. A student may or may not sign a waiver of his/her right to access to recommendations and statements written for and about him/her after January 1, 1975.
 - d. Copies of student records will be furnished upon written request of the student. Official transcripts of a student’s college academic record are available. Student records for which copies are requested will be issued at a charge of \$.25 per page with a minimum charge of \$2.00.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA. The law requires educational institutions to provide hearings for students to challenge any record that they consider inaccurate or misleading. Aurora University, in complying with this law, has established the following procedures for implementing it.
 - a. A student must present a written request to see the contents of his/her files to the appropriate office. An appointment will then be made for him/her to read his/her file in the presence of a member of the university staff. Identification will be required at the time of the appointment. A student may read the contents of these files, but may not remove or destroy any of the contents.
 - b. A University Judicial Board hearing may be requested by a student for the purpose of challenging any record he/she considers inaccurate or misleading, under the terms of General Campus Regulation Number 16. The decision of the University Judicial Board will be appropriately implemented in all such cases. If the decision is not to amend the record, the student will be allowed to place a written comment or explanation in his/her file. If the contested portion of the file is disclosed to anybody, the student’s statement will also be disclosed.
 3. The right to provide written consent before Aurora University discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. Under the second heading, the release of student records, the law requires prior written consent of the student before releasing personally identifiable data about him/her from the records to other than a specified list of exceptions that includes school officials, whom the university has determined to have legitimate educational interests, officials of other schools in which a student seeks to enroll, parents of “income tax dependent” students, appropriate government officials, accrediting organizations, in response to a legal subpoena and to certain others if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons.

- a. Excepted from this requirement is "directory information," including the student's name, address, telephone number, email address, photograph/electronic image, date and place of birth, major field of study, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, enrollment status, degrees, honors, and awards received, and the most recent previous educational institution attended by the student.
- b. Such information may be made public once the institution gives notice of the categories of information that it has designated as such "directory information" and allows a reasonable period of time after such notice has been given for a student to inform the institution in writing that all of the information designated should not be released without his/her prior written consent. New requests or cancellations must be submitted by the end of the first week of classes for the given term. After that date, the university cannot guarantee that the student's directory information will not appear in a printed publication. This announcement constitutes such public notice.
- c. "School officials" include
 - i. persons employed by Aurora University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including but not limited to law enforcement unit personnel, attorneys, counselors, and health staff);
 - ii. persons serving on the board of trustees; or
 - iii. persons (including students) serving on an official university committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee.
 - iv. A school official also may include a volunteer, contractor, consultant or other party outside of Aurora University
 - who performs an institutional service or function for which the university would otherwise use its own employees,
 - who is under the direct control of the university with respect to the use and maintenance of education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist another university official in performing his or her tasks, and
 - who is subject to the obligation not to disclose PII from any education record without the prior written consent of the student.
- d. "Legitimate educational interests" include performing a task or engaging in an activity related to
 - i. one's regular duties or professional responsibilities,
 - ii. a student's education,
 - iii. the discipline of a student,
 - iv. a service to or benefit for a student,
 - v. measures to support student success, and
 - vi. the safety and security of the campus.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Aurora University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

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

Questions may also be directed to the University Registrar in the Office of the Registrar at registrar@aurora.edu.

Directories

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 Thomas Stuhley

Administration 2025-2026

Susana Rivera-Mills, PhD President
 Derek Abrams, Special Assistant for Strategic Initiatives
 Rebecca Flaminio, Senior Executive Assistant to the President/Board Professional

Academic Affairs

Paaige Turner, PhD Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
 Matthew Dabros, PhD Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
 Rebecca Ruffin, University Registrar
 Sarah McHone-Chase, Director of Phillips Library

Academic Affairs, Educational Areas

Brenda Barnwell, DSW Dean, College of Education and Social Work and Education
 Chetna Patel, PhD Interim Dean, College of Health and Sciences
 Pegeen Reichert Powell, PhD Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Business
 Concetta Zak, DNP Dean, School of Nursing

Advancement and Alumni Relations

Jennifer Buckley, EdD Senior Vice President for Student Success

Athletics

James Hamad, Vice President for Athletics

Business and Finance

Sharon Maxwell, Senior Vice President for Business and Finance
Heather Granart, Associate Vice President of Student Financial Services

Community Relations

Sandra Galindo, Assistant Vice President for Community Relations
Natasha Ritsma, PhD Director of the Schingoethe Center

Enrollment and Marketing

Deb Maue, Senior Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing
Emily Morales, Dean of Graduate Enrollment
Matt Crisman, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions

Human Resources

Joanne Tolbert-Wells, Associate Vice President of People and Culture

Operations

Jeffrey King, EdD Chief Operating Officer
Hurstel Howard, Assistant Vice President / Chief Information Officer
William Davis, Chief of Police

Student Success

Jennifer Buckley, EdD Senior Vice President for Student Success
Arin Carter, EdD Assistant Vice President Student for Student Success and Innovation
Allison Brady, Assistant Vice President for Student Life / Dean of Students / Title IX Coordinator

University Center at McHenry County College

Kailley Harmon, Executive Director of the University Center at McHenry County College

Full-Time Faculty 2025-2026

Faith Agostinone

Professor, Co-Chair of EdD Program
Education
2003
EdD, Oklahoma State University

Alison Arendt

Associate Professor; Director of Graduate Studies for the School of Social Work, Coordinator of Military and Veteran Social Work Track
Social Work
2014
MSW, Aurora University

Ramona Baima

Senior Lecturer
Mathematics
2023
EdD, Aurora University

Bridgitte Barclay

Professor; Director of the Core Curriculum
English and Environmental Studies

2011

PhD, University of Texas at Arlington

Megan Beard

Assistant Professor; Director of the Master of Science in Athletic Training Program
Athletic Training
2002
PhD, University of Toledo

Michael Belbis

Assistant Professor
Exercise Science
2023
PhD, Purdue University

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Assistant Professor
Social Work
2020
DSW, Aurora University

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Assistant Professor
Nursing
2022
MSN, Drexel University

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Associate Professor
Biology and Environmental Science
2010
PhD, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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Associate Professor
Social Work
2011
PhD, Loyola University Chicago

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Professor
Social Work
2009
PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Professor
History
1999
PhD, University of Kansas

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Associate Professor
Business and Finance
2016
MBA, University of Chicago

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Associate Professor; Kenneth C Corkum Distinguished Professorship in Life Science, Pre-Medical Professionals Advisor
Health Science
2016

PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Nursing
2022
MSN, Chamberlain University

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Education
2022
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Associate Professor; Coordinator of Physical Sciences
Physics
2016
PhD, University of Nebraska

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Assistant Professor
Chemistry
2024
DA, SUNY Binghamton

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Professor
Biology
2006
DVM, MS, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Assistant Professor
Nursing
2023
MSN, Purdue University

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Assistant Professor; Coordinator of Addictions and Forensics
Graduate Social Work
2015
MSW, Aurora University

Trevor Dotson

Senior Lecturer; Interim Chair and Technical Director of Theatre
Theatre
2023
MFA, University of Nevada Las Vegas

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Associate Professor; Chair of English
English
2006
PhD, Northern Illinois University

Paul Eberhart

Lecturer
Human-Animal Studies
2024
MA, Miami University

Sara Elliott

Associate Professor
English

2002

PhD, Northern Illinois University

Julie Ellis

Associate Professor
Nursing
2018
MSN, Benedictine University

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Professor; Coordinator of Undergraduate Research Program
Art History
2007
PhD, Bryn Mawr College

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Wellness
Exercise Science
2019
PhD, Oklahoma State University

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Business and Communication
2021
MA, Northern Illinois University

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Nursing
2024
DNP, Oak Point University

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Professor
Psychology
2005
PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Parolini Distinguished Associate Professor of Music; Director of Choral
Music
2010
DMA, University of Arizona

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English
2008
PhD, University of California-Santa Barbara

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Associate Professor
Sociology
2018
PhD, University of California-Santa Barbara

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Assistant Professor; Coordinator of Special Education and Elementary
Education, Chair of Initial Licensure
Special Education
2021
PhD, Concordia University

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Assistant Professor
Marketing
2019
MBA, Northwestern University

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Marketing
1991
PhD, Union Institute

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Nursing - GWC
2013
DNP, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Associate Professor, Joe Dunham Distinguished Professorship in Ethics
Ethics
2021
PhD, University of Oxford

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English
2004
PhD, University of Arizona

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Associate Professor; Coordinator of Gerontology and Healthcare Track
Social Work
2013
DSW, Aurora University

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Lecturer
Mathematics
2023
MS, University of Kerala

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English
2010
PhD, Idaho State University

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Spanish
1996
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Health Science
2021
MD, Mohammed V University Medical School

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of Business
Business Analytics

2018

MS, DePaul University

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Assistant Professor; Coordinator of Physical Education
Physical Education
2005
MAT, Aurora University

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Mathematics
2021
PhD, Purdue University

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Professor
English
1999
PhD, Vanderbilt University

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English
2011
PhD, Vanderbilt University

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Bilingual
Education
2015
EdD, Loyola University Chicago

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Education
2014
EdD, Aurora University

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Social Work
2020
PhD, Loyola University Chicago

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Theatre
2024
MFA, University of Missouri - Kansas City

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2018
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Therapeutic Recreation
2017
MS, Aurora University

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Nursing
2023
MSN, Purdue University

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Associate Professor
Psychology
2013
PhD, Northern Illinois University

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Art
2013
MFA, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

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Health Science
2021
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Marketing
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Education
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Communication
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EdD, Northern Illinois University

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EdD, Roosevelt University

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Criminal Justice
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PhD, Michigan State University

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Nursing
2022
DNP, University of Kentucky - Lexington

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Biology
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Nursing
2019
MSN, Western Governor's University

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Computer Science
2017
PhD, Illinois Institute of Technology

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PhD, Northern Illinois University

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Psychology
2024
MA, Argosy University

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2024
DNP, Regis University

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Religion & History
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PhD, University of Notre Dame

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2023
MS, Western Illinois University

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PhD, Nova Southeastern University

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Sport Management
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EdD, Creighton University

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Social Work
2024
MSW, Aurora University

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Nursing
2019
MSN, Northern Illinois University

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Professor; Marvel E. Davis Distinguished Professorship in Music, Chair of
Music
Music/Theory and Keyboard
2011
DMA, The University of Connecticut

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Professor; Keith and Elizabeth Smith Chair in Science and Mathematics,
Chair of Physical Sciences and Biology
Chemistry
1996
PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Human-Animal Studies
2024
MS, Western Illinois University

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Social Work

2024
PhD, Jackson State University

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Associate Professor; Judith B. Dunham Distinguished Professorship in
Nursing
Nursing
2015
MSN, Lewis University

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Associate Professor; Director of Dunham Scholars Program; Chair of
Political Science and Public Policy
Political Science and Public Policy
2017
PhD, Purdue University

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Associate Professor
Computer Science and Mathematics
2016
MS, Northern Illinois University

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Professor
Social Work
2001
PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Associate Professor; Co-Chair of EdD Program
Education
2014
PhD, The University of Alabama

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Associate Professor
Music
2009
DA, University of Northern Colorado

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Professor
English
2024
PhD, University of Colorado Denver

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Graphic Design
2023
MFA, University of Notre Dame

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Nursing
2023
MSN, Olivet Nazarene University

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Mathematics
2011

PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Computer Science
2022
MS, Illinois Institute Tech

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Social Work
2024
MA, University of Chicago

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Professor
Biology
2013
PhD, Pennsylvania State University

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Professor; Chair of Psychology & Sociology
Psychology
2007
PhD, Loyola University Chicago

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Social Work
2024
MSW, Aurora University

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2017
MSW, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Associate Professor; Emerita Dean of Latino/a Initiatives, Coordinator of
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Foreign Languages
2019
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Health Science
2021
MBA, Robert Morris College

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Associate Professor
Psychology
2009
PhD, University of Iowa

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Professor; Chair of History, Philosophy, & Religion
History
2011
PhD, Ohio State University

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Education

2016
PhD, Georgia State University

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Professor; Chair of Computer and Data Science
Computer and Data Science
2022
PhD, DePaul University

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Business and Healthcare Administration
2024
MBA, Purdue University

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Nursing
2023
MSN, Western Governors University

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Accounting
2024
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Cybersecurity
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PhD, Virginia International University

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Criminal Justice
2023
JD, George Mason University

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2022
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Nursing
2023
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Social Work
2019
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Social Work
2021
DSW, Aurora University

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Philosophy
2006
PhD, DePaul University

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Professor; Coordinator of Parks and Recreation Leadership
Parks and Recreation
2011
EdD, Aurora University

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Professor of Accounting, Don & Donna Kieso Distinguished
Professorship in Accountancy
Accounting
2018
PhD, University of Illinois, Chicago

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Professor; Director of Graduate & Online Programs for Criminal Justice
Criminal Justice
2007
PhD, Sam Houston State University

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Professor; Chair of Communication and Graphic Design
Communication
2011
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Education
2021
EdD, Aurora University

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Religion
2022
PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary

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Visiting Assistant Professor
Literacy and Learning Education
2024
EdD, Aurora University

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Assistant Professor, Clinical Education Coordinator of Athletic Training
Athletic Training
2021
EdD, University of Dayton

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Dean Emeritus - GWC; Dean of the School of Social Work and Professor
of Social Work, 1986-2003

GWC
2003
PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Professor Emeritus of Nursing and Communication; Professor of Nursing
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Nursing and Communication
2002
PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Associate Professor Emeritus, Phillips Library; Reference Librarian,
Phillips Library, (Associate Professor), 1971-2000
University Library
2001
MA, Northern Illinois University

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Professor Emeritus of Education; Professor of Education, 2000-2013
Education
2013
PhD, Indiana University

Ronald G. Benson
Dean Emeritus, John and Judy Dunham School of Business and
Professional Studies; Dean, John and Judy Dunham School of Business
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John and Judy Dunham School of Business and Professional Studies
2001
PhD, University of Iowa

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Associate Professor Emeritus; Associate Professor of Mathematics and
Education, 1967-1999;
Mathematics
1999
MEd, University of Florida

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Professor Emeritus of Education; Professor of Education, 2001-2016;
Education
2016
PhD, Southern Illinois University

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Social Work
2001
PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Professor Emeritus of Education; Professor of Education, 1992-2016
Education
2016
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Associate Professor Emeritus, University Library; Head of Media
Services, Phillips Library; Associate Professor, 1977-2003
University Library
2003
MSEd, Northern Illinois University

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Professor Emeritus of Communication; Poetry Artist in Residence,
Professor of Communication, 1985-2003
Communication
2001
PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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1968-1971, 1978-2006
Biology
2006
MA, University of North Carolina

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Mathematics, 1977-2006
Mathematics
2006
MA, Ball State University

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Administration, 1970-2011
GWC
2011
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Vice President for Enrollment Emeritus; Vice President for Enrollment,
2000-2009; Director of Adult and Continuing Education, 1982-1985
Enrollment
2009
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Professor Emeritus of Education; Professor of Education, 2002-2017
Education
2017
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Program, 2003-2016
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2016
PhD, University of Chicago

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2006-2016
Business
2016
MBA, Harvard University

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English
1999
PhD, Northern Illinois University

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Nursing, 1984-2004
Nursing
2004
PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Science, 1991-2010
Computer Science
2010
PhD, Illinois Institute of Technology

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of Academic Advisement and Associate Professor of Economics and
Business, 1959-1977
Economics and Business
1977
MBA, University of Chicago

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Dean Emeritus, College of Education; Director, Graduate Programs,
1994-1996; Dean, College of Education 1996-2003; Executive Director,
Institute for Collaboration, 2003-2005; Part-Time Instructor, 2005-2012
Education
2012
MS, Illinois State University

Christina Krause

Associate Professor Emeritus of Psychology; Associate Professor of
Psychology, 1996-2016
Psychology
2016
PhD, Northern Illinois University

Steven R. Lay

Professor Emeritus of Mathematics; Professor of Mathematics,
1971-1990
Mathematics
1990
PhD, University of California-Los Angeles

J. Kenneth Leask

Professor Emeritus of Psychology; Professor of Psychology, 1966-2001
Psychology
2001
EdD, Northern Illinois University

Maryanne Locklin

Associate Professor and Director Emeritus, School of Nursing; Director,
School of Nursing; Associate Professor of Nursing, 1995-2006
Nursing
2006
DNS, Rush University

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Associate Professor Emeritus of Nursing; Associate Professor of
Nursing, 2003-2016
Nursing
2016
PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Professor Emeritus of Art; Professor of Art, 1986-2013

Art

2013

MFA, Tulane University

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Professor Emeritus of Physics; Professor of Physics and Engineering Science, 1974-2006

Physics

2006

PhD, University of Missouri

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Dean Emeritus, School of Nursing; Dean, School of Nursing; Professor of Nursing, 1996-2001

Nursing

2001

PhD, University of Colorado

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Professor Emeritus of Social Work; Professor of Social Work, 1987-2008

Social Work

2008

DSW, Hunter College, City University of New York

Carolyn Mull

Professor Emeritus of Nursing; Professor of Nursing, 1987-2003

Nursing

2003

PhD, University of Illinois at Chicago

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Associate Professor Emeritus of English; Associate Professor of English and Communication, 1991-2003

English

2003

PhD, University of Chicago

Linda Olbinski

Dean Emeritus - GWC; Dean, School of Professional Studies - GWC, 2002-2010; Director of Continuing Education, 2010-2012

GWC

2012

PhD, Marquette University

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Professor Emeritus of Sociology; Associate Professor of Sociology, 1966-1996

Sociology

1996

MDiv, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

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Professor Emeritus of History; Professor of History; Curator of Jenks Collection, 1973-2010

History

2010

PhD, Northern Illinois University

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Associate Professor Emeritus of Music; Associate Professor of Music, 1974-1994

Music

1994

MM, Northwestern University

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Associate Professor Emeritus of Social Work; Associate Professor of Social Work, 1996-2006

Social Work

2007

DSW, Loyola University Chicago

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Associate Professor Emeritus; Associate Professor of Philosophy/ Interdisciplinary Studies, 1991-2010

Philosophy/Interdisciplinary Studies

2010

PhD, Syracuse University

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Professor Emeritus of Social Work; Professor of Social Work, 1995-2010

Social Work

2010

EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts; Professor of Fine Arts, 1985-2011

Fine Arts

2011

PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Associate Professor Emeritus, University Library; Catalog Librarian, Phillips Library, (Associate Professor), 1964-1998

University Library

1998

MLS, University of Michigan

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Professor Emeritus of Social Work; BSW Program Director, 1987-1991; Field Coordinator of Field Placement, 1991-1992

Social Work

1994

PhD, University of Minnesota

Deanna Sommers

Associate Professor Emeritus of Nursing; Associate Professor of Nursing, 2006-2016

Nursing

2016

MSN, Wayne State University

Hanni U. Taylor

Professor Emeritus of English; Professor of English, 1978-2006

English

2006

PhD, Northern Illinois University

John G. Vanko

Associate Professor Emeritus of Education; Associate Professor of Education, 1996-2008

Education

2008

EdD, Loyola University Chicago

Richard F. Westphal

Professor Emeritus of English; Professor of English, 1971-2010

English
2010
DA, Illinois State University

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Dean Emeritus, School of Experiential Leadership; Dean, School of
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Experiential Leadership
2008
EdD, Northern Illinois University

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Professor Emeritus of Biology; Professor of Biology, 1975-2000
Biology
2000
PhD, University of Michigan

Catalog Addendum
Addendum

Item	Change Description	Date of Update - Effective Term
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INDEX

A

Academic Calendar	7
Academic Leave of Absence	33
Academic Measurement and Evaluation	42
Academic Regulations and Procedures	19
Addendum	63
Additional Bachelors Degree	13
Additional Bachelors Degree	13
Admission	9
Application for Admission	14
Application of Academic Regulations	26
Approvals and Accreditations	3
Articulations	14
Assessment of Learning Outcomes in Graduate Programs	6
Attendance Policy	31
AU Online	10
Aurora Campus	4
Aurora University Regulations and Policy Catalog	2
Awarding Posthumous Degrees	48

C

Catalog Statements and Terms of Issue	8
Center for Graduate Studies	10
Classroom Conduct Policy	25
Code of Academic Integrity	23
Colleges and Schools	6
Course Enrollment and Classroom Environment Policy	25
Course Modalities	7
Credit Hour Policy	7
Cross-Listed Undergraduate/Graduate Courses	11

D

Declaration of Major	42
Degree Distinctions	23
Directories	53

E

Earning Multiple Graduate Degrees or Credentials	13
Equal Opportunity Employment	8

F

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as Amended FERPA ..	52
Financial Aid	15

Financial Aid Rights and Responsibilities	48
---	----

G

General Education	20
General Education and Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Programs	5
General Information about Aurora University	2
Governance	3
Grades	42
Graduate Academic Standards	26
Graduate Admission	11
Graduate Degree Requirements	23
Graduate Programs of Study	5
Graduate Student Classification and Definition	47
Graduate Transfer of Credit	14
Graduation Policies and Procedures	47

I

International Students	11
------------------------------	----

M

Medical Leave of Absence	33
Military Accommodation	36
Mission, Vision and Values	2

N

Non-Discrimination	8
Non-Traditional Sources of Credit	14

O

Overview	2
----------------	---

P

Petitions	29
-----------------	----

R

Registration	27
Regulations Governing Majors and Minors	42

S

Satisfactory Academic Progress Procedures	50
Sexual Misconduct Policy (Title IX)	8
Simultaneous Undergraduate Multiple Degrees and Multiple Majors	22
Special Admission Status	12
Special Educational Experiences and Credit	29
Special Study Opportunities	6
Student Services	17

T

Term of Entry	14
---------------------	----

Time Limit for Completion of Graduate Degrees 23

Transcripts: Regulations Governing Issuance 46

Transfer and Non-Traditional Sources of Credit 37

Tuition and Fees 15

U

Undergraduate Academic Standards 26

Undergraduate Admission 9

Undergraduate Degree Requirements 20

Undergraduate Programs of Study 4

Undergraduate Student Classification and Definition 47

Undergraduate Transfer of Credit 14

V

Veterans 13

W

Waivers and Exceptions to Academic Regulations 9

Withdrawal 37