



Robert Morris University  
Office of Graduate Admissions  
Accelerated 4+1  
&  
Counseling Psychology 3+2  
Student Handbook  
2024-2025

## **Table of Contents**

Welcome.....Page 2

Accelerated Program Offerings.....Page 3

Admission Criteria.....Page 4

Program Directors.....Page 5

International Students, Student-Athletes, & Veterans....Page 6

Accelerated Contract/Language....Page 7

Financial Aid Information....Page 8

## **Welcome**

Thank you for your interest in the Accelerated Program at Robert Morris University. In today's highly competitive job market, having both an undergraduate and graduate degree can give you a distinct advantage and make you more valuable to potential employers. RMU knows you want to get the most out of your time. That's why we offer a selection of Accelerated Programs that enable you to earn both a bachelor's and a master's degree in around five years.

This handbook will outline the application process, as well as provide helpful information that will help you to decide if the Accelerated Program is a good fit for you.

We look forward to further discussing your interest in the program!

[\*\*graduateadmissions@rmu.edu\*\*](mailto:graduateadmissions@rmu.edu)

## **Accelerated Program Offerings**

The Accelerated Program is available to qualified, on-ground bachelor's degree seeking students.

- BSBA/MBA
- BS Applied Mathematics, concentration in Financial Mathematics/MBA
- BS Engineering/MBA
- BS in Computer Information Systems/MBA
- BS in Cybersecurity/MBA
- BS in Data Analytics/MBA
- BS Engineering/MS Engineering Management
- BS Psychology/MS Counseling Psychology (3+2 Program)
- BS Health Services Administration/MS Health Services Administration
- Any Bachelor's/MS Organizational Leadership
- Any Bachelor's/MS Cyber Investigation & Intelligence
- Any Bachelor's/MS Cybersecurity
- Any Bachelor's/MS Data Analytics
- Any Bachelor's/MS Data Science
- Any Bachelor's/MS Healthcare Analytics
- Any Bachelor's/MS Information Systems Management

# Admission Criteria

## MBA

- Accelerated Programs Application – [www.rmu.edu/accelerated](http://www.rmu.edu/accelerated)
- Applications must be completed in spring semester of junior year or when applicant has earned 90 credits but no more than 100 earned credits
- 3.0 GPA (GMAT is required if GPA is below 3.0)
- 1 page essay describing your interest in earning the degree
- Resume
- Essay

## Engineering Management

- Accelerated Programs Application – [www.rmu.edu/accelerated](http://www.rmu.edu/accelerated)
- 2.8 overall GPA and 3.0 GPA in RMU engineering courses
- 81-96 earned credits
- Personal statement of interest (3-5 paragraph describing personal interest in the program and professional/educational goals)
- 2 professional letters of recommendation (one letter must come from a faculty member)
- Resume

## Counseling Psychology (3+2 Program)

- Accelerated Programs Application – [www.rmu.edu/accelerated](http://www.rmu.edu/accelerated)
- 3.0 GPA
- 3<sup>rd</sup> year students who already applied to get on the counseling psychology concentration track
- 500 word essay answering “What has led you to pursue a career as a professional counselor?”
- 2 professional letters of recommendation (one letter must come from a faculty member)
- Resume

## Health Services Administration

- Accelerated Programs Application – [www.rmu.edu/accelerated](http://www.rmu.edu/accelerated)
- 3.0 GPA
- 87 earned credits
- 500 word essay describing your interest to the program and professional goals
- Resume

## Organizational Leadership

- Accelerated Programs Application – [www.rmu.edu/accelerated](http://www.rmu.edu/accelerated)
- 2.8 overall GPA, 3.0 major GPA
- 87-108 earned credits
- 750-1000 word essay detailing academic and professional goals
- Resume

## Cyber Investigations & Intelligence

- Accelerated Programs Application – [www.rmu.edu/accelerated](http://www.rmu.edu/accelerated)
- Applications must be completed in the spring semester of junior year or when the applicant has earned 90 credits.
- 3.0 overall GPA

## Cybersecurity - Data Science - Data Analytics - Healthcare Analytics - Information Systems Management

- Accelerated Programs Application – [www.rmu.edu/accelerated](http://www.rmu.edu/accelerated)
- 2.8 overall GPA, 3.0 major GPA, 3.0 for computing courses
- 87-108 earned credits

## Program Directors

If you have academic/course/scheduling related questions about the Accelerated Program please arrange an appointment with the appropriate program director.

### MBA

Dr. Jacob Peng

Email: peng@rmu.edu

412-397-6385

### Organizational Leadership

Dr. Anthony Moretti

Email: moretti@rmu.edu

412-397-6467

### Engineering

Dr. Jameela Al-Jaroodi

Email: aljaroodi@rmu.edu

412-397-4053

### Health Services Administration

Dr. Holly Hampe

Email: hampe@rmu.edu

### Counseling Psychology

Dr. Neha Pandit

Email: pandit@rmu.edu

### Cyber Investigations and Intelligence

Dr. Frank Hartle

Email: hartle@rmu.edu

412-953-5026

### CIS Programs

Dr. Natalya Bromall

Email: bromall@rmu.edu

412-397-6435

## International Students, Student-Athletes & Veterans

Prior to making an application to the Accelerated Program please contact the following staff members regarding your eligibility:

### International Students:

Tabitha Slater
Office Phone: 412-397-5943
<a href="mailto:slater@rmu.edu">slater@rmu.edu</a>
On-campus location: Colonial Village #2

### Student-Athletes:

Dr. Kevin Deitrick	Danny Bonaventura
Office Phone: 412-397-6864	Office Phone: 412-397-4913
<a href="mailto:deitrick@rmu.edu">deitrick@rmu.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:bonaventura@rmu.edu">bonaventura@rmu.edu</a>
On-campus location: Solutions Central	On-campus location: Athletics

### Veterans:

Christie McFadden
Office Phone: 412-397-5435
<a href="mailto:mcfaddenc@rmu.edu">mcfaddenc@rmu.edu</a>
On-campus location: Jefferson Center 106

## Accelerated Contract

Once your completed application is received, it will be sent to the program director for review. A decision is typically rendered within 7-14 days. If you're admitted into the program, you'll be asked to sign the Accelerated Student Contract.

It is important to thoroughly review and understand the contract prior to signing and submitting.

### Robert Morris University Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's Program Student Enrollment Agreement (SAMPLE)

The following terms must be understood and agreed upon by each student who wishes to enter the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program. Please read each statement below carefully and then sign on the bottom of the form to indicate your understanding and agreement with each statement.

1. ***I understand that I will forgo earning my bachelor's degree until I have met all of the necessary academic requirements to receive my accelerated degree. No interim bachelor degree will be awarded and I will not be able to participate in a commencement exercise until my accelerated program requirements have been met.*** Once my accelerated degree is complete, I can elect to have either my bachelor's or master's degree conferred at the appropriate commencement exercises.

2. I agree that once I am officially placed into the accelerated program, I will begin to pay the University's blended flat rate of tuition. ***I understand that I will be charged the blended flat rate of tuition for the very next term that I enroll in classes regardless of the term I applied for as my desired entry term for the accelerated program.*** Entering the accelerated program means that I will forfeit my ability to pay for courses on a per credit basis (unless taking under 12 credits in a semester at which point I will pay a per credit rate that is a hybrid of the current per credit rate of graduate and undergraduate tuition).

3. If I elect to leave the accelerated program at any time after I am placed into it, I will return to my original undergraduate check sheet. I will receive credit toward my undergraduate requirements for graduate work completed when applicable. If I elect to make this change, I understand that I will then be placed on the University's traditional flat rate of tuition. If my bachelor's degree requirements are met once I leave the accelerated program, my bachelor's degree will be conferred at the end of the term during which I changed majors. The degree will not be backdated.

4. I understand that credits earned in one degree will not be applied towards the second degree with related content. In this case, advanced placement will be applied, and a course substitution will be approved by the department head.

5. I understand that I will continue to be eligible to receive institutional aid for a total of 10 semesters once accepted into the accelerated program. Students must maintain full-time status, which is a minimum of 12 credits each fall and spring semester, in order to continue to receive institutional aid. The 12 credits may be a combination of graduate and undergraduate work.

***Graduate level enrollment can impact eligibility for federal and state grant aid, as well as federal student loan eligibility. Students should review full policy wording at [rmu.edu/finaid](http://rmu.edu/finaid).***

***Athletic scholarships are determined annually by individual coaches following NCAA regulations. If you are a student-athlete you should have already discussed your interest in the accelerated program with Dr. Kevin Deitrick or Danny Bonaventura.***

6. I understand that to earn my accelerated bachelor's and master's degrees, I must meet the enrollment and graduation standards of the accelerated degree program at the undergraduate level, as well as meet the college's graduation requirements to receive an undergraduate and graduate degree.

7. I understand that I will complete the requirements for the approved master's degree only. Once my accelerated degree is complete, I can apply through the Office of Graduate Admissions to earn a second master's degree according to the Change of Graduate Degree Program Policy and Graduate Second Master's Degree Policy.



## Financial Aid

RMU Financial Aid Office  
Revere Center, Lower Level  
412-397-6250  
[finaid@rmu.edu](mailto:finaid@rmu.edu)

Students will continue to be eligible to receive institutional aid for a total of 10 semesters once accepted into the accelerated program. Students must maintain full-time status, which is a minimum of 12 credits each fall and spring semester, in order to continue to receive institutional aid. The 12 credits may be a combination of graduate and undergraduate work.

**If you have additional questions about Financial Aid please contact your counselor based on last name initial:**

Last Names starting with A-G:	Last Names starting with H-O:	Last Names starting with P-Z:
Chris Schmidt <a href="mailto:schmidt@rmu.edu">schmidt@rmu.edu</a> 412-397-6256	Taryn Linder <a href="mailto:linder@rmu.edu">linder@rmu.edu</a> 412-397-6259	Dawn Geregach <a href="mailto:geregach@rmu.edu">geregach@rmu.edu</a> 412-397-6258

### Important Financial Aid Information

#### **Grants**

Eligible students will continue to receive their federal Title IV aid until the student has earned the total number of credits normally required for the bachelor's degree, generally 120 credits but depends on the program of study.

For PA state grant recipients, once the student is accepted into the program, state grants are reviewed each term until they earn the bachelor level credits. The grant amount will be determined based on registered undergraduate courses. If the student carries at least 12 undergraduate credits, full PA state grants will be considered for eligible students. Part-time PA state grants may be awarded in the fourth year if the student carries at least six undergraduate credits.

#### **Loans**

Graduate and undergraduate loans differ in the amount of money that a student is able to borrow. Accelerated program students are eligible to borrow at the graduate level once they have earned the bachelor level credits. Students can apply for graduate level loans using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Repayment obligation for undergraduate loans will be deferred until after the graduate degree is complete.

#### **Institutional Aid**

Students are eligible to receive institutional aid for a total of 10 semesters once accepted into the integrated program. Students must maintain full-time status, which is a minimum of 12 credits each fall and spring semester, in order to continue to receive institutional aid. The 12 credits may be a combination of graduate and undergraduate course work.

#### **Athletic Scholarship**

These are determined annually by individual coaches following NCAA regulations.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Financial Aid Counselor directly. ***If you are a student-athlete you should have already discussed your interest in the accelerated program with Nicole Law.***

Contact information, as well as full financial aid policy wording related to the Accelerated Program can be found [RMU.EDU/FINAID](http://RMU.EDU/FINAID).