
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE GRADUATE DEGREE AGREEMENT (ICGDA)

International Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree

between

Partner Institution, City, Country

and

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A.

This document describes an international graduate cooperative degree agreement (ICGDA) designed to deepen the research and academic relationship as part of the growing partnership between The Ohio State University (Ohio State) on behalf of its Department/College of _____ and the Department/College of _____ at the Partner Institution (____ abbreviation). The goal of this cooperative degree agreement is to provide a framework for exceptional undergraduate students enrolled in Partner Institution to seek a global educational and professional experience at Ohio State while enrolled as a provisional graduate student.

The agreement will enable Partner Institution students an opportunity to pursue, simultaneously, two degrees in two different universities, specifically a 4-yr undergraduate degree at the Partner Institution and a graduate Master's degree at Ohio State, and reduce the typical time required to complete both sets of degree requirements. Under this agreement, eligible Partner Institution students pursuing an undergraduate degree from Partner Institution may complete their undergraduate course requirements at Ohio State with the intent of continuing studies to obtain a graduate degree type _____ (e.g. M.S. degree) at Ohio State in an abbreviated period, similar to the Combined undergraduate/graduate Master's degree for Ohio State students. (Section 8.1 of the Graduate School Handbook)

THE AGREEMENT

1. Period of Agreement.

- a) This Agreement becomes effective for 5 years on the date of the last signature. This overarching agreement among institutions, once executed, will grant the Partner Institution the access to design specific and potentially multiple Combined Bachelor's/Master's programs with Ohio State graduate programs. These specific programs will be reviewed and approved in the standard process of The Graduate School and The Office of Academic Affairs in 5-year terms as described in (2).
- b) Upon written consent by both parties, the agreement may be extended for another period of 5 years. The Department/College will provide a written report

to the Graduate School documenting student success in the program for approval prior to renewing another term. Specifically, this report should provide student participation (numbers) and academic metrics of success; including, but not limited to, maintaining good standing in the Graduate School, degree completion (%), number of returning students after the Bachelor's degree, and time to degrees.

2. Program Overview.

- a) For the Partner Institution to initiate a new International Bachelor's/Master's Program with a College and Department at Ohio State, this ICGDA must be signed and in effect. Upon approval of the ICGDA by the Graduate School and the Chief Financial Officer at Ohio State a signed copy of the ICGDA will be provided to the Ohio State Department and the Partner Institution.
- b) Upon approval of the ICGDA, a program proposal for the international Combined degree program must be submitted by the academic units at OSU and the Partnering Institution for review by the Graduate School (Dean or Associate Dean). The program proposal must be approved as per the curricular review process for any Ohio State graduate program in accordance with the Graduate School's current **Program Approval Guidance Document**. A copy of the ICGDA is a required component of the program proposal submission.
- c) Once the program proposal is approved, each year, the Partner Institution may send up to the agreed upon number of qualified undergraduate students who are at the beginning of the fourth and final year of undergraduate study to Ohio State for up to 3 consecutive semester(s) to complete the Bachelor's degree. Partner Institution students are provisionally admitted to the Ohio State Graduate School in the specified degree program.
- d) At the end of the up to 3 consecutive semester/s at Ohio State, Partner Institution students will complete their undergraduate degree from Partner Institution. It is understood that this may require the student to return to the Partner Institution to complete the Bachelor's degree. Given that students provide to Ohio State a transcript showing completion of the baccalaureate degree and that students meet all other enrollment conditions, Partner Institution students will continue studies as a graduate student for ____ (number of) semester/s in ____ (defined in the Program Proposal) to complete the master's degree at Ohio State.

3. Enrollment Conditions.

1. Students from Partner Institutions with an active ICGDA with Ohio State will be allowed to enroll in the Combined Bachelors/Master's program.
2. Partner Institution students who are accepted by the Ohio State program can participate and are provisionally admitted to the Ohio State Combined Bachelors/Master's program.
3. Partner Institution students are to study at Ohio State for the fourth and final year of their Bachelor's degree program (or selected semester during this year)

to complete the coursework with credit hours equivalent to the requirement of the same period at Partner Institution. Enrolled courses at Ohio State must be available for graduate credit in order for the hours to count toward a graduate degree. Upon completion of coursework during this period at Ohio State, students are to earn their _____(degree type and title) from Partner Institution. Criteria for the Combined Bachelor's/Master's program include but are not limited to the following:

- a. Students must have completed a minimum of 3 years of baccalaureate level course work.
 - b. Students must earn a minimum of 3.5 cumulative grade-point average or its equivalent (evaluation by Ohio State Graduate and Professional Admissions) in all previous undergraduate work (including credit hours from all undergraduate institutions previously attended).
 - c. International students may not be admitted to the Combined Bachelor's/Master's program in conditional or graduate non-degree status.
4. The Graduate Program in the Ohio State Department/College under this ICGDA, must additionally evaluate students based on their academic record, including their GPA and recommendation letters. The academic record must meet the requirements for the combined undergraduate/graduate program at Ohio State as described in the Graduate School Handbook Section 8.1.
 5. The students from Partner Institution will also need to meet the TOEFL English language requirements set by the OSU Graduate School (currently IBT 79 total), which includes a minimum score of 550 on the old or a minimum score of 19 on each section of the new paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), 79 on the internet-based TOEFL, 82 on the Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB), or 7.0 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).
 6. In order to continue studies at Ohio State as a graduate student, Partner Institution students must meet the current published Graduate School criteria for enrollment as per the current Graduate School Handbook.
 - a. Students must provide to the Ohio State Graduate and Professional Admissions Office an official transcript showing a baccalaureate degree earned, or its equivalent, before continuing into the second year of the international graduate degree program. Provisional admission status will be removed once the bachelor's degree is verified.
 - b. Students who have completed the 4-year degree requirements for the Partner Institution in the Combined Bachelor's/Master's program will be subject to the academic and professional standards of the Graduate School and meet the course and academic requirements of the Ohio State graduate program in which the graduate degree will be conferred.
 - c. As with all degrees, the student's transcripts will be monitored by the

Graduate School and any problems identified communicated among the parties, up to and including dismissal of the student from the degree program as for any domestic student in a Combined Bachelor's/Master's degree program.

7. Students continuing to study at Ohio State during the final academic year (i.e. fifth academic year) as a graduate student are to receive a _____ (degree type, e.g. Master's Degree) from Ohio State upon completing all degree requirements, as outlined in the Graduate School Handbook and in guidelines specific to the graduate program. A course plan for each student must have been approved by the graduate program based on the curriculum as approved by Ohio State.

8. Responsibilities of Parties.

a) Responsibilities of The Ohio State University:

1. To inform Partner Institution of the Vision and Mission statements of the Ohio State Graduate School and that the pre-selection of students must follow the criterion of the best and most diverse graduate students.
2. To evaluate, at the graduate program and department level, interested students who have completed two years of study at the Partner Institution and have been nominated by the Partner Institution for the Combined Bachelor's/Master's program at Ohio State;
3. To inform Partner Institution of admission results of nominated students for participation in the Combined Bachelor's/Master's program at Ohio State after completion of their third year at the Partner Institution;
4. To advise admitted Partner Institution students about Ohio state rules and regulations
5. To register admitted Partner Institution students at Ohio State starting with the SP, SU, or AU semester of their first combined year as a Graduate Student (fourth academic year), and for their fifth academic year to complete the Graduate degree.
6. To advise, at the graduate program level, Partner Institution students on courses they need to take for their master's degree and to create a course plan. Each Partner Institution student will be assigned a program advisor to facilitate this process.
7. To inform the incoming students of all student benefits, including health insurance requirements and availability.
8. Ohio State will not be obligated to provide financial support for stipend and/or tuition and fees for students from the Partner Institution. However, the Partner Institution student(s) will be informed if any costs associated with a graduate student appointment, including tuition, fees, and living expenses, will be covered by the Ohio State graduate program. If this support is in the form of a Graduate Research Associate (GRA) or Graduate Teaching Associate (GTA) appointment then

responsibilities of these appointments will be provided.

9. To collaborate with the Partner Institution in procurement of international fellowships and other funding opportunities to support Partner Institution students in pursuing graduate education at Ohio State.
10. All Partner Institution students enrolled at OSU will be reviewed by the Graduate School in the same manner as all OSU Graduate Students and will be subject to remediation or probation for insufficient progress toward the degree as per our Graduate School Handbook.
11. To monitor equitable distribution of resources among all students in the Graduate Program and provide an interim report that enrollment, retention and graduation of students not part of the International Dual Degree are not affected as a result of the Cooperative Agreement.

b) Responsibilities of Partner Institution:

1. To recruit and nominate the best and most diverse Partner Institution students after their second year of undergraduate study (i.e. 4th semester) at Partner Institution for program participation at Ohio State after their third year;
2. To forward to the Ohio State Program the names of nominated students who have applied for admission to Ohio State.
3. To recognize the two-year commitment for a student to complete the Ohio State graduate degree.
4. To accept the Ohio State coursework and grading scheme for Partner Institution students to fulfill requirements for the awarding of the bachelor's degree;
5. To administer pre-program orientation of student participants;
6. To ensure that students admitted to the program take courses designated as essential;
7. To advise Ohio State of any circumstances that may affect the student's year abroad (e.g. known public health issues); and
8. To advise Partner Institution students about academic and cultural expectations at Ohio State.

c) Responsibilities of the students:

1. To complete on-line application to the Ohio State program at gradadmissions@osu.edu and submit all required application materials;
2. If admitted, to accept the offer of admission on-line and submit financial documentation required to receive an I-20. Students must show proof of ability to cover tuition and living expenses as follows:
 - a. To pay tuition and fees when studying at Ohio State. During their fifth academic year, Ohio State student tuition and fees may be paid by Ohio

State if students receive a graduate associate appointment;

- b. To obtain an appropriate student visa for degree status at Ohio State (F-1);
 - c. To pay room and board costs;
 - d. To secure and pay for the required health insurance and to pay medical costs;
 - e. To pay for books, living expenses and any other costs;
 - f. To pay the cost of transportation to and from Ohio State and Partner Institution;
3. To submit a transcript showing completion of a baccalaureate degree as well as all applicable academic test scores and enrollment documentation to Ohio State; and
 4. To follow the academic rules and guidelines of Ohio State and Partner Institution as outlined in this agreement.

5. Fundamental Research and Export Control.

It is recognized and understood that Ohio State will not engage Partner Institution students coming to Ohio State pursuant to this agreement in any proprietary research or research that is not “fundamental research” as defined in the U.S. Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR). Partner Institution agrees that neither Partner Institution, nor any of its faculty or employees, will direct or advise students to conduct research in violation of these laws or to seek out proprietary or non-fundamental research. It is recognized and understood that this agreement is subject to all applicable U.S. export control laws and regulations controlling the transfer of technical information or items out of the U.S. The transfer of certain technical information or items may require a license from the U.S. Government. All parties must comply with all applicable export control laws and regulations and no party may export or allow the export or re-export of any information or item when to do so would constitute a violation of those laws or regulations.

6. Termination.

Either party may terminate this Agreement by providing the partner institution with written notice of its intent to terminate. The terminating party will give notice at least 1 year prior to the effective date of the termination. Termination will not affect the program in effect prior to the effective date of the termination, and will be finalized after the completion of the program by current students. Ohio State has no obligation to fund the student’s stipend, tuition or fees for any of their program.

7. Nondiscrimination.

The parties agree that no person is excluded from participation under the terms of this Agreement on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law.

8. Modification.

The parties may change or modify the terms of this Agreement only by written

amendment signed by the parties.

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Alicia L. Bertone	Date
Dean, Graduate School	
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies	
The Ohio State University	

Name	Date
Title	
Partner Institution	

Michael Papadakis	Date
Interim Senior Vice President for Business and Finance & Chief Financial Officer	
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