

Combined BS/Master's Program FAQ's

1. What is "favorable" in a student's application to the BS/MS 5 year program?

Excellent grades (Dean's List in multiple semesters), completion of "general education" requirements prior to the senior year, potential research promise, and experience in a laboratory are all favorable factors for admission to the 5-year program.

2. How do graduate students obtain support for their graduate studies?

MS students are self-supported meaning the department does not offer formal financial support. Students must seek financial support from their families, a work-study job, and various loans or through the Office of Financial Aid.

3. How much more expensive is tuition from undergraduate to graduate education?

Graduate education at Rutgers is more expensive than undergraduate education. For 2013-2014, Graduate study costs around \$361 MORE per credit. However, full time study for graduate students is nine credits as opposed to twelve credits for undergraduate study. The estimated increase in attendance is around \$2,500/semester.

4. Where can I find more information about the cost of graduate study?

The office of Student Accounting has a "cost of attendance estimator" calculator which can give a student a general idea of the cost. The website can be found here: <https://studentabcweb.rutgers.edu/estimator/>.

It is also strongly suggested to contact the office of Financial Aid (<http://studentaid.rutgers.edu/default.aspx>) during the 4th (senior) year to discuss options for paying for graduate study in year five and beyond.

5. Are there conditions I must meet to remain in the BS/MS program?

Students are admitted fully, admitted on a "conditional" basis or denied admission to the program. Students who are admitted "conditionally" are required to keep a minimum of 3.0 GPA in the senior year while taking the remaining undergraduate courses. All students must not receive more than one "C" grade in the graduate courses taken in the senior year or they may be removed from the 5-year program. In this rare case, students would then just finish with the BS degree in the senior year and apply to graduate school for the regular graduate, non-accelerated degree program.

6. How do students find thesis advisors?

Through communication! During the "senior year", students should start talking to faculty who could potentially be the thesis advisor. A student should typically have an advisor by the end of the spring semester of the 4th year.

7. Who awards the graduate degrees in Engineering?

The graduate degrees in Engineering are awarded by Rutgers, through the Graduate School of New Brunswick (and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences for BME).