

## COMBINED UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM FAQ (AY20-21)

The Combined Undergraduate/Graduate Degree program allows well-prepared Columbia students to earn graduate credits toward an MA in Entrepreneurship for Creatives, Civic Media, Strategic Communications, or Interaction Design while still enrolled in any undergraduate major.

### Why would I pursue a Combined Undergraduate/Graduate Degree program?

Graduating from Columbia with both a BA and MA may give you a competitive employment edge, demonstrating to employers your maturity, career preparation, and general commitment. Having degrees in complementary areas may also showcase a unique combination of skills employers rarely see.

### Are there any other advantages to the Combined Undergraduate/Graduate Degree program?

Yes, there are two major advantages:

- You'll save money; and
- You'll have early access to certain graduate-level classes during your senior undergraduate year.

### How will this program save me money?

You'll pay the less expensive undergraduate tuition rate for those graduate classes you take while still a senior undergraduate. You may also save money through the [Columbia Rise award](#), a renewable award equal to four credit hours of tuition each semester you'll be enrolled as a full-time graduate student.

### Am I guaranteed acceptance into the Combined Degree Program?

Only those students who maintain eligibility and receive approval from their designated MA program's review committee are accepted.

### Who's eligible to apply for the Combined Undergraduate/Graduate Degree program?

Any student is eligible to apply; however, you must:

- Earn at least 90 credits before your senior year.
- Earn at least 12 credits while in residence at Columbia College.
- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher in all classes taken at Columbia College.
- Enter your senior undergraduate year with at least 12 free elective credit hours—six in the fall, six in the spring.

### How do I apply for the Combined Undergraduate/Graduate Degree program as an Incoming Freshman?

It's easy. Indicate on your undergraduate application that you're interested in the combined degree program. That's all.

### What makes me eligible to apply as a student already enrolled at Columbia?

You must:

- Earn at least 90 credits before your senior year.
- Earn at least 12 credits while in residence at Columbia College.
- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher in all classes taken at Columbia College.
- Enter your senior undergraduate year with at least 12 free elective credit hours—six in the fall, six in the spring.

### If I am eligible, how do I apply as a student already enrolled at Columbia?

- Complete the MA program's application form and submit required materials.
- Be accepted during your junior year by the faculty review committee associated with your chosen graduate program.

### When do I apply as a student already enrolled at Columbia?

You must apply in the fall semester of your junior undergraduate year.

### What happens in my senior undergraduate year after I'm admitted to the Combined Degree Program?

You take 12 hours of graduate-level classes—six in the fall, six in the spring. These double-count as bachelor's degree electives and MA degree requirements.

### What happens after I complete my bachelor's degree if I'm enrolled in a Combined Degree Program?

You'll spend your final year as a graduate student completing the remaining requirements of the MA degree you are pursuing.

### How many credits must I earn after I earn my BA in the Combined Degree Program?

Either 18 or 19, depending on the program.