

Foundations

Contact

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Admission Requirements

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (including biology)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- 2 Foreign Language (same language or two years of American Sign Language)
- Academic electives (to equal at least 17 credits)

To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.

About UMaine

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. For more information about UMaine, go online (umaine.edu). Equal opportunity information also is available online (umaine.edu/eo).

University Programs

Program Description

Foundations provides students who do not meet the admissions standards for their chosen major an opportunity to matriculate at the University of Maine on an academic contract with a restricted class schedule. The Foundations program is a referral program. Students are not able to apply directly to this program. However, if during the application review process it is determined that a student would be a good candidate for Foundations, the student may be offered admission to Foundations rather than being denied admission to the university.

This one-year program is designed to allow students to adjust to the college environment and the academic rigors required at the University of Maine. To be eligible to enroll in this program, students must sign an admission contract agreeing to the terms of the program. Students enroll in a first-year seminar taught by their academic advisor as well as a select set of regular college level courses that fulfill the general education requirements. Students will not be allowed to take math or lab science courses during the first semester unless the student earned exceptional high school grades in those areas.

To ensure a successful transition from high school to college, students in the Foundations program will be required to attend (5) one-on-one meetings with their academic advisor during the first semester, attend every class in all courses in the program and successfully complete the Foundations FND 100 class with a passing grade.

To remain in the program, students must earn specific grade point averages at the end of each semester. At the end of the first semester, a student must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0. If their GPA is below that, they will be placed on academic probation with a specific academic contract that includes the requirement to participate in the academic recovery program. If their GPA is below 1.0, they will be suspended.

At the end of their second semester, a student must maintain a GPA of 2.0. If their GPA is below 2.0 and above a 1.5, they will be allowed to remain in the Foundations Program for a third semester on probation with a specific academic contract. If their GPA is below a 1.5, they will be suspended.

By successfully completing their first semester with a GPA of 2.5 or higher, or by completing their second semester with a GPA of 2.0 or higher, the student will be eligible to transfer to a major within one of the University of Maine's five colleges. Students should realize that they are not guaranteed the ability to transfer to a specific UMaine program, as some programs may require a 2.5 GPA or better in order to transfer and some programs may have a space limit.

Program Contract

Foundations 13-Credit Program Contract

I have read the enclosed Foundations Program Fact Sheet and understand that, as stated in the fact sheet, to participate in the Foundations Program I will be required to:

- Register for the courses in the Foundations 13 Credit Program.
- Attend 5 one-on-one meetings with my academic advisor during the first semester.
- Attend every class in all courses in the program.
- Successfully complete my Foundations FND 100 class with a passing grade.
- Live on campus in the First-Year Residential Community and adhere to the Guide to Campus Living
- Adhere to the Student Conduct Code.
- At the end of my first semester, to be successful I must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0. If my cumulative GPA is below that, I will be placed on probation with a specific academic contract that includes the requirement to participate in the academic recovery program. If my cumulative GPA is below 1.0, I will be suspended.
- At the end of my second semester, to be successful I must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0. If my cumulative GPA is below 2.0 and above a 1.5, I will be allowed to remain in the Foundations Program for a third semester on probation with a specific academic contract. If my cumulative GPA is below a 1.5, I will be suspended.

By successfully completing my first semester with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher, or by completing my second semester with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, I will be eligible to request to transfer to a major within the University of Maine. I realize that I am not guaranteed the ability to transfer to a specific UMaine program, as some programs may require completion of specific courses or a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher in order to transfer and some programs may have a space limit.

Specialized Information

Why was I referred to the Foundations Program?

Students referred to the Foundations Program during the admissions process did not meet the admission standards for their chosen programs at the University of Maine. However, based on the student's academic profile, the Admissions Committee believed the student could be successful in general education courses at UMaine and thus, the student is given the opportunity to meet the admissions standard of their chosen program after a semester or two of successful college level work in the Foundations Program.

Who serves as advisers to Foundations students?

Foundations student are advised by professional academic advisors who have demonstrated a strong commitment to first-year students and are knowledgeable about all of UMaine's academic programs.

When do I select a major? Can I select a major in any of the colleges?

As a Foundations student, you may request to transfer to an academic major if you have a 2.5 GPA after your first semester or a 2.0 GPA after your second semester. All programs have eligibility standards (e.g., minimum GPA, specific coursework) you must meet before you declare your major. Provided you meet the eligibility standards of the program and there is space available, you may choose to major in any of the undergraduate programs at UMaine.

What courses will I take as a Foundations student?

Foundations students select from the same college courses taken by other degree students at the university. These courses will be used to complete general education requirements that are required of all UMaine students and are intended to provide a strong foundation when students select their major. Courses are selected to help students explore their interests and to prepare them for further collegiate level academic work.

Will the courses I take in Foundations count when I declare my major and transfer to a college?

Provided you pass them with an acceptable grade, the courses you take while in Foundations will transfer to any UMaine college or program in fulfillment of general education requirements, as electives or in fulfillment of major requirements.

How do I apply?

Visit go.umaine.edu for an application as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.



Academic Programs 2011–12

The latest versions of the UMaine fact sheets are online (factsheets.umaine.edu). This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.

