Degree Requirements

Idaho State University Resident Credit Requirements

Resident credits are credits earned at Idaho State University for ISU credit-bearing courses. The following lists the resident credit requirements of the University.

- For the associate degree, at least 16 credits of the last 24 credits applied to the degree must be resident credits, as defined above.
- For the bachelor’s degree, at least 28 credits in the major area of study must be resident credits*, or 28 of the last 50 credits applied to the degree must be resident credits, as defined above.
- At least 16 upper division credits required for the major must be resident credits, as defined above.
- At least 6 credits required for the minor must be resident credits, as defined above.
- Additional resident credit is granted as specified in the “Alternative Credit Opportunities” section of this catalog.

Resident credit for graduate programs is addressed in the Graduate Catalog (http://coursecat.isu.edu/graduate).

Please note: Resident credits are not synonymous with Idaho State University resident residency definitions for tuition purposes (see the section on “Idaho Residency Requirement for Fee Payment” in the About Idaho State University section of this catalog).

Degree Credit Requirements

To be eligible for an associate of applied science (A.A.S.) degree, a student must:

- Complete General Education requirements;
- Complete all major requirements;
- Meet Resident Credit requirements as defined above;
- Complete 60 credits of coursework;
- Have an overall ISU cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.0; and
- Have a completed and cleared degree audit.

To be eligible for an associate of arts (A.A.) or an associate of science (A.S.) degree, a student must:

- Complete General Education requirements;
- Complete all major requirements;
- Meet Resident Credit requirements as defined above;
- Complete 60 credits of coursework, of which at least 30 need to be academic credits;
- Have an overall ISU cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.0; and
- Have a completed and cleared degree audit.

To be eligible for a bachelor of arts (B.A.) or a bachelor of science (B.S.) degree, a student must:

- Complete 36 credits of upper division coursework;
- Complete 120 credits of coursework, of which at least 60 need to be academic credits;
- Have no more than 60 credits earned through specialized credit or alternate credit opportunities;
- Have an overall ISU cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.0; and
- Have a completed and cleared degree audit.

Specialized Credit Limitations

Graduation requirements may be met by no more than the number of credits in certain groups as listed below.

- No more than 30% of the program requirements can be fulfilled through credit by examination**
- No more than 25% of the program requirements can be fulfilled with Credit for Prior Experiential Learning.***
- 8 credits from Professional Development workshop courses.
- 8 credits in ensemble participation in music (Music majors may count 8 credits of ensemble participation in music as free electives).
- 8 credits in physical activity courses (including all PEAC courses, DAAC courses, and MSL 1110 /PEAC 1110)

Catalog Requirements

Candidates for associate or bachelor’s degrees may choose to fulfill the degree requirements stated in any one catalog in effect during their enrollment at Idaho State University, subject to the following stipulations:

1. Candidates for bachelor’s degrees must use a catalog in effect the year they matriculate or any later year. For students who change majors, this is determined by the department in consultation with the student at the time they are accepted into the major.
2. The catalog cannot precede the academic year in which the student graduates by more than 8 years.
3. Selection of a catalog for certifying graduation requirements must be approved by the department’s chair, program director, or designee.
4. Students with a gap in enrollment at the university for eight semesters or more (including summers) from the date of last attendance must meet degree requirements as outlined in the catalog in effect at the date of their re-enrollment, or any subsequent catalog published prior to their degree conferral date.
5. If a major program is discontinued by the university and the State Board of Education, students enrolled will be assisted in transferring to an equivalent program in the state. If there is no similar program within the state, currently enrolled students will be permitted to complete the program in accordance with existing graduation requirements.

Regardless of the catalog the student chooses, deviations may be required for accreditation, licensing, or State Board of Education mandates.

Certificates

Certificates, as defined by the State Board of Education, are available in various programs. Specific requirements can be found in the catalog under the specific programs.
**Grade Requirements**

An Idaho State University cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.0 or higher is required for graduation.

In addition, a grade point average of at least 2.0 is required for all courses taken at Idaho State University and those required by the department in which the major or minor is sought.

Individual departments may require a higher grade point average.

**Other Information Related to Graduation**

**Revocation of Degrees**

The university reserves the right to revoke a previously granted degree, either for failure to satisfy the degree requirements (i.e., a mistake in granting the degree), or for fraud or other academic misconduct on the part of the recipient discovered or acted upon after the degree has been awarded.

**Honors Designation at Graduation**

Students who secure minimum grade point averages of 3.33 and also are in the top 10% of their respective college’s graduating class are designated as graduating with honors. Those in the top 5% are designated as graduating with high honors. See also the University Honors Program information within the Student Success Center (http://coursecat.isu.edu/aboutisu/studentservices) section of this catalog.

**Other Degree Policies**

**Second Associate Degree**

A student may be granted a second associate of arts or associate of science degree that will be posted in a term after the student has earned the initial degree by meeting the following minimum requirements:

1. a minimum of 16 hours of department-approved work beyond the accumulated number of credits earned at the time of completion of the first degree;
2. satisfaction of upper and lower division courses required by the department beyond the general education requirements fulfilled by the first degree.

A student with an academic associate degree (A.A., A.S., or A.A.& S.) earned in 1995 or later from a U.S. regionally accredited institution will be considered to have met Idaho State University’s General Education Requirements when seeking a second associate degree.

**Second Bachelor’s Degree**

A student may be granted a second bachelor’s degree that will be posted in a term after the student has earned the initial degree by meeting the following minimum requirements:

1. a minimum of 32 hours of department-approved work beyond the accumulated number of credits earned at the time of completion of the first degree;
2. satisfaction of upper division requirements in the major field as required by the department in which the second degree is to be granted;
3. satisfaction of lower division courses required by the department beyond the general education requirements fulfilled by the first degree.

A student who wishes to earn two degrees concurrently must meet the requirements set forth above for a second degree, and the General Education Requirements. A student with a bachelor’s degree from a U.S. regionally accredited institution will be considered to have met Idaho State University’s General Education Requirements when seeking a second bachelor’s degree.

**Majors and Minors**

**Majors**

Each degree-seeking student admitted to Idaho State University will indicate their choice of major on their admissions application. Some majors require an application to the department. In those cases, the student will only be able to choose a pre-major, and should contact the department for details of the program admissions requirements and process.

Students wishing to change their major should contact the department that offers the major.

**Minors**

A minimum of 18 semester hours with a minimum grade point average of 2.0 is required in the minor concentration. Not all departments offer a minor. Those that do may require more than the minimum number of credits and they may specify some of the courses required. Consult departmental catalog entries for more information. Minors at Idaho State University are optional for all students. More than one minor may be declared and earned. To declare a minor, the student should consult with the appropriate department. A student declaring a minor must do so before or at the time of application for graduation.

**To graduate using this resident credit requirement, please contact dgwaudit@isu.edu**

**See Alternative Credit Opportunities in the Academic Information section of this catalog for specific information.**

**Idaho State University follows Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) (http://www.nwccu.org) policies 2.C.3 and 2.C.7 in awarding credit for prior experiential learning.**