PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTER'S

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Illinois Professional Science Master's (PSM)
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Graduate Concentration: Professional Science Master's

Graduate Degree Program
The concentration in Professional Science Master's (PSM) provides masters students with a unique learning experience by combining traditional science, technology, or mathematics disciplines with an integrated professional curriculum focusing on core business knowledge and skills. Traditional depth in the disciplinary field coupled with business-related workplace skills and internship experience prepares graduates for careers in business, government, and not-for-profits. Programs are full-time, non-thesis, cohort-based and are designed to be completed in 16 months.

The Professional Science Master's concentration is available in:
- M.S. in Agricultural Production (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/ag-production/#text)
- M.S. in Bioenergy (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/bioenergy/#text)
- M.S. in Geographic Information Science (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/geography/psm-gis)
- M.S. in Food Science and Human Nutrition (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/fshn/ms-conc-pro-science-masters)
- M.S. in Plant Biotechnology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/plant-bio/ms-plant-biotechnology-psm-concentration) (not currently accepting applications)
- M.S. in Technical Systems Management (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/ag-biol-engin/ms-technical-systems-management-psm-concentration)

Admission
Candidates for admission to the concentration and associated Illinois M.S. degree must have a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution equivalent to those from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Minimum requirements include a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (A = 4.0) for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work and for any graduate study. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required of all applicants. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores vary by program. Admission to one of the eligible degree programs listed above is required, and their admission requirements vary by program and may be more rigorous than the minimums presented here. Transfer credit may not be applied to this program due to the cohort nature of this program.

Financial Aid
Financial assistance in the form of full or partial waiver of tuition and fees – is rarely available to Illinois PSM students (except for statutory waivers). Departments providing assistance that includes waivers must pay Illinois PSM tuition and fees on students’ behalf. Illinois PSM students may be eligible for student loans.

Graduate Concentration in Professional Science Master’s
Specific requirements vary by major degree program, but all programs require a minimum total of 42 graduate hours of work in three areas: a scientific discipline (may include related interdisciplinary fields), business, and an internship.

Credit within the disciplinary major, as indicated by the specific program 32
Business curriculum (common across all Illinois PSM Programs) 10
Industry Seminar Series: 0
  PSM 501 PSM Industry Seminar I
  PSM 502 PSM Industry Seminar II
  PSM 503 PSM Industry Seminar III
PSM 555 PSM Internship 0
Total Hours 42

Other Requirements
Other requirements may overlap
Students are not eligible to transfer graduate credit into these programs.
See individual program pages for specific details of disciplinary requirements.

Full-time enrollment (12 credit hours or higher) is required in fall and spring semesters; summer enrollment is required for the internship.

1 The 10 semester hour business curriculum is delivered in partnership with the College of Business, typically in two credit-hour courses. All Illinois PSM students take business courses together as a cohort. To remain responsive, specific courses will vary from year-to-year but are built around themes:
  • Finance
  • Management and marketing
  • Project management
  • Science and regulatory policy
  • Teamwork and leadership

2 For additional details and requirements refer to the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook).