

Bachelor of General Studies Academic Partnerships Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a Bachelor of General Studies degree?

The Bachelor of General Studies degree is a four-year baccalaureate degree designed for students who wish to take courses in more than one area of specialization. A student can self-design an individualized curricular plan that is a multidisciplinary broad-based program of study. This degree is entirely online.

2. Is the Bachelor of General Studies for me?

This program is designed for students who want to take classes in more than one area of interest to tailor a degree to their personal or professional goals. This degree can prepare a student for a new career, advancement in an existing career, graduate school, or an alternative teacher certification program.

3. What are the admission requirements?

Applicants for the BGS program through Lamar University Academic Partnerships (LUAP) program must meet the university's standard requirements for admission. Detailed information can be found online in the <http://catalog.lamar.edu/index.html> under the Undergraduate Information section.

Students who have attended another regionally accredited college or university and earned 18 hours or more will have to meet Lamar University's transfer admission requirements. This information can be found online in the <http://catalog.lamar.edu/index.html> under the Undergraduate Information section.

Applicants are responsible for submitting the official documents to verify the above requirements are met. By submitting these materials, including sealed transcripts from all previous colleges and universities attended, the applicant is attesting that these documents provide a complete record of their history in higher education.

Note to active or retired military personnel: Credit may be granted for military experience. Credit will be evaluated based on recommendations outlined in the American Council on Education (ACE) Guide to Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services manual. Applicants must submit one of the following documents: Form DD214 or Form DD256.

4. How does the admission process work? Students seeking acceptance into the

Bachelor of General Studies – Academic Partnerships program must first apply and be admitted to the university. The application is available at <http://stateu.com/lamar/apps/apply/>. Official transcripts from each college or university that has been attended must be sent to the Lamar University Admissions Department. No transcripts will be reviewed until all the student's transcripts are received by Lamar University.

5. Do I need to be advised?

Yes, advising is mandatory each semester for all Bachelor of General Studies – Academic Partnerships students. Once students are accepted into the program, they should review courses at <http://degree.lamar.edu/ProgramInfo.aspx?id=1009>.

Responsibilities of the Academic Advisor:

- The advisor will prepare and send to the student a copy of the degree plan.
- The advisor will address any questions a student may have.
- The advisor will assist the student in choosing courses.
- The advisor will enroll the student in courses.
- The advisor will send the student an email with all pertinent course information.

Responsibilities of the Student:

- The student will communicate with the advisor often (at least once per semester).
- The student will discuss any concerns with the advisor.
- The student will always identify him or herself and be prepared for the advising session.
- The student will have his or her Lamar identification number for the advisor.

6. How are the online courses delivered?

Academic Partnerships provides the online platform on which students take courses and submit assignments. The platform is Epic and any technical issues should be addressed by phone to 866-223-7675 or by emailing support@academicpartnerships.com.

Academic Partnerships semesters run one 15-week session with two 8-week sessions running back to back as well. Students may take any combination of

courses from each session; however, no student may take more than 18 hours per semester or more than 9 hours per 8-week session. Students should anticipate spending several hours per week per course.

7. Is financial aid available?

Yes, it is available if you qualify. Any questions regarding financial aid should be directed to the Financial Aid Department at 409-880-7011 or by email at FinancialAidAcademicPartnership@lamar.edu. More information about financial aid is available at <http://degree.lamar.edu/financialAid.aspx>.

Students seeking financial aid must be registered for ALL classes necessary to qualify for aid by the financial aid deadline. Therefore, any student only taking classes for the second 8-week session must apply for aid before the start of the fall, spring, or summer semesters in order to have financial aid applied to that session.!
