



Falcon Accelerated Success Track (FAST)
Programs Information Session

FAST programs Session Agenda



1. Definition
2. Example Programs
3. Benefits of FAST Programs
4. How Does It Work?
5. FAST Program Admission Policies
6. How Do You Apply to a FAST Program?
7. FAST Program Retention Policies
8. Timeline
9. Program Off-Ramps
10. What To Do Now?
11. Resources
12. Please fill out the interest form if you haven't already done so:
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=QDwnlmyhwUKVvXErrQ8-CtjvGvX4xstltEBHFqMwHAJUQzBRNDRSVEhORU02U1hONThQTjVOM1BPRIQIQCN0PWcu&route=shorturl>

FAST Programs Definition

- What is a FAST Program?
 - Falcon Accelerated Success Track (FAST) Programs
 - Joint (blended) Bachelor's and Master's degree
 - Also referred to as 4+1 programs
 - Why is it **fast**?
 - Double counting of up to 12 units between programs allowed
 - Minimum of **138 total units** required (BS 120 + MS 18)
 - Rather than 150 total units (BS 120 + 30 MS)

Example Programs

- BA Global Studies + MA History
- BS Business Administration + MS Marketing Analytics
- BS + MS in Kinesiology
- BS Data Science + MS Statistics
- BS Recreation + MS Hospitality, Recreation and Tourism

Benefits of FAST Programs

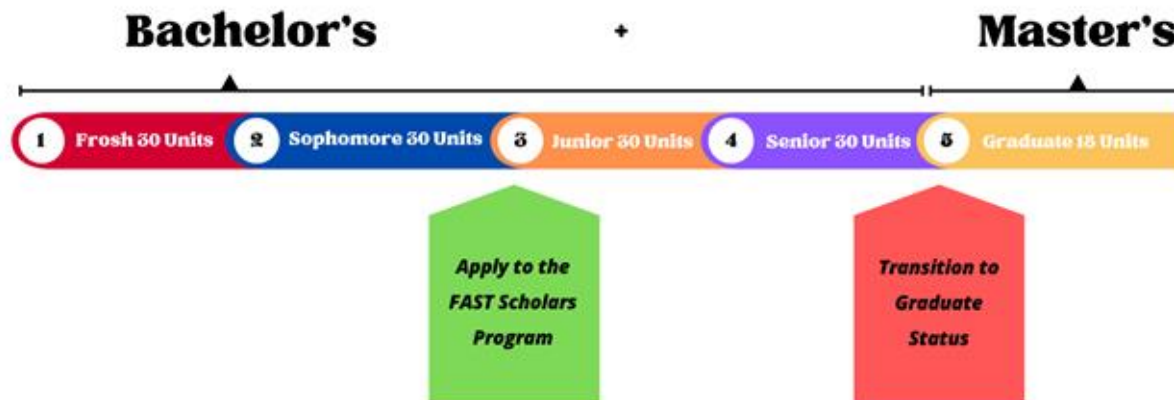
- Provide an accelerated route to a graduate degree, earning both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in a **shorter time** and at **lower cost**
- No “formal” application made through Cal State Apply; **no application fee**
- Accepted to graduate program in **junior year** rather than Spring of senior year and so can plan for future more easily
- Can provide a meaningful **capstone experience** where a senior project could be incorporated into a graduate thesis/project

How Does It Work?

- Essentially, fewer units (up to 12 less) are required for the undergraduate major (so only $120 - 12 = 108$ units required)
- Graduate degree requirements unchanged - typically 30 units
- Start taking graduate courses in your senior year
- [Example roadmap](#)

FAST Program Admission Policies

- Internal campus application with no fee
- Bachelor's students may apply if they have earned between **60 to 90 units**
- Applicants must have a **2.5 GPA** to apply to a FAST program
- Applicants must have completed **all lower division General Education** and **lower division major** coursework prior to applying to the FAST program
- Programs may specify more stringent admission requirements

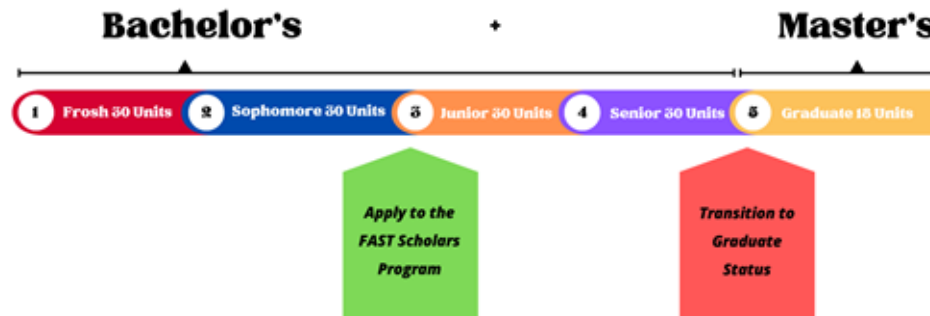


How Do You Apply to a FAST Program?

- Attend information workshop or meet with [FAST Program Advisor](#) (bottom of page)
- Make request to your FAST Program Advisor to submit application on your behalf
- Advisor checks your eligibility and submits application to University Registrar
- Application routed for approval (**yours**, FAST Program Advisor, Undergrad Advisor if different, International Programs, Registrar)
- Effective immediately like a change of concentration

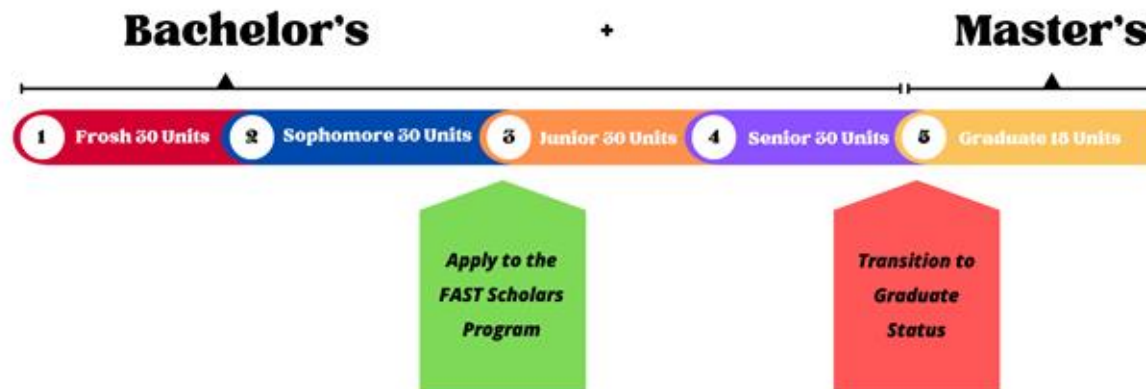
FAST Program Retention Policies

- While in undergraduate career:
 - Must maintain a 3.0 GPA in all upper-division and graduate-level work while in program
- Students must have completed **all** university-wide undergraduate requirements (upper division GE, overlays, Code and University Writing Requirement) BEFORE transitioning into the FAST graduate degree objective status.
- Students pay undergraduate tuition and fees until they move to graduate status



FAST Program Retention Policies

- While in graduate career, regular graduate program policies apply
 - 3.0 GPA required
 - 5-year rule
 - Student applies for graduation for master's degree as usual

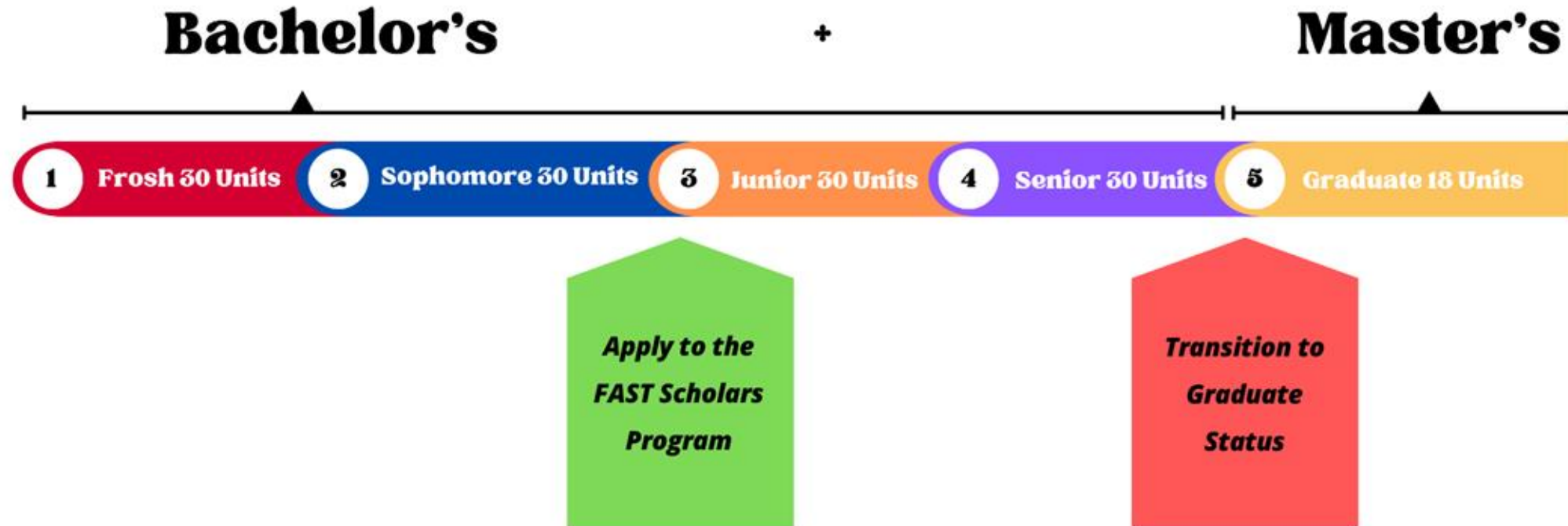


Timeline



- AY 26-27 - Junior Year
 - Apply to FAST program
- AY 27-28 - Senior Year
 - Start taking double-counted courses
 - Graduate with bachelor's degree in Spring 28
 - Transition to graduate career at end of Spring 28
- AY 28-29 - Graduate Year
 - Take graduate courses as graduate student
 - Graduate with master's degree Spring 29

Timeline



FAST Scholar Responsibilities

- Meet with FAST Program Advisor every semester
- Maintain 3.0 GPA in upper division and graduate courses
 - Use Degree Audit Report (DAR) to verify - [Example DAR](#)
- Register for and complete double-counted courses on roadmap timeline
- Apply for bachelor's graduation after they have completed 90 program-applicable units
- Complete graduate degree requirements as usual

FAST Program Off-Ramps

- **Off-ramps** = paths by which FAST Program Scholars may leave the FAST program and complete their bachelor's degree alone
- Why necessary?
 - You decide against earning a master's degree
 - Student is unable to maintain necessary 3.0 GPA in upper division and double-counted courses
 - Student does not complete university undergraduate degree requirements (upper division GE, UWR) by 120 unit deadline
 - Student does not take double-counted courses as required
- We want to ensure that you earn your bachelor's degree even if you leave FAST program

FAST Program Off-Ramps

- How implemented?
 - You can file a request with Registrar to leave the FAST program
 - Same Change of Concentration/Major form already in place
 - Takes effect immediately
 - Guaranteed that you can use any double-counted courses you have already taken towards your bachelor's degree
 - FAST Program Advisor will contact University Registrar if you are unable to meet retention requirements

What to do now?

- Look over [FAST program website](#)
 - Discuss FAST programs with FAST Program Advisors
 - Check the general eligibility requirements
 - 60-90 units, complete lower division major and GE courses, 2.5 GPA
 - Check the requirements for your intended FAST program
- At beginning of Fall semester, if eligible, meet with your FAST Program Advisor and ask them to apply on your behalf

Resources

- [Cal State East Bay Falcon Accelerated Success Track \(FAST\) Program Handbook and Coordination Guide](#)
- [Graduate Studies Fast Program Webpage](#)