

## GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

### Master's Degree

#### ***Master of Science With and Without Specification***

For the degree of Master of Science, the student must have satisfactorily completed a program of study of at least 66 units of graduate subject credit and a thesis approved by the department in which they are enrolled. If 34 units and the thesis are in a single approved program, as determined by a departmental committee on graduate students, the degree will be recommended with specification in this program; otherwise, the degree will be recommended without specification. The same high standard of academic performance in a program approved by a departmental committee on graduate students is required for either degree.

The choice of area of specialization must be approved by the committee on graduate students of the department in which the student is enrolled. Approval of the entire program must be obtained from this committee and from the student's faculty advisor. A special interdepartmental committee, approved by the Office of Graduate Education, may be appointed to supervise a program of study in an interdisciplinary field.

The satisfactory completion of the master's degree requires the student to be in residence as a full-time regular graduate student for a minimum of one regular academic term (not the summer session). Every degree candidate working on a thesis must register for thesis in all terms during which their thesis research or writing is actually in progress and during the term in which their name appears on the degree list.

#### ***Master of Architecture***

For the degree of Master of Architecture, the student must have completed satisfactorily a program of study of at least 282 units of graduate subject credit and a thesis, both acceptable to the Department of Architecture. The program requires three and one-half academic years of residence. Advanced entry may be considered for students with a pre-professional bachelor's degree in architecture. The degree requirements for students pursuing advanced entry will depend on the student academic experience and waived requirements, but will be no less than two and one-half years of residence, as well as satisfactory completion of 164 units of graduate subject credit and a thesis, both acceptable to the Department of Architecture.

#### ***Master of Applied Science***

To be awarded the Master of Applied Science (MASc) degree with specification of the field in which the student has specialized, the student must satisfactorily complete at least 90 units of credit (including at least 66 units of graduate subject credit) from within a program of study that includes a slate of required and elective

subjects, and a capstone experience, both acceptable to the department in which the student is enrolled. The candidate must also have been in residence for a minimum of one regular term.

#### ***Master of Business Administration***

To be awarded the degree of Master of Business Administration through the two-year MBA program, the student must satisfactorily complete a program of study of at least 189 units that includes a set of required core subjects, at least 144 units of elective graduate subject credit, and four regular academic terms in residence, as acceptable to the Sloan School of Management. A student who chooses to write a thesis must complete at least 120 units of elective graduate subject credit plus a 24-unit thesis. All components of the program of study must be acceptable to the Sloan School of Management.

To be awarded the degree of Master of Business Administration through the one-year Sloan Fellows Program in Innovation and Global Leadership, the student must satisfactorily complete a program of study of at least 171 units that includes a set of required core subjects, and at least 48 units of graduate subject credit acceptable to the Sloan School of Management.

To be awarded the degree of Master of Business Administration through the two-year Executive MBA (EMBA) Program, the student must satisfactorily complete a program of study of at least 174 units that includes a set of required core subjects, plus three graduate-level restricted electives taken at designated times throughout the program.

For the degree of Master of Business Administration through the two-year Leaders for Global Operations (LGO) program, the student must have completed satisfactorily a program of study of at least 180 units that includes a set of required core subjects and at least 120 units of elective graduate subject credit, as well as a 24-unit thesis, as acceptable to the Sloan School of Management.

#### ***Master of Business Analytics***

To be awarded the degree of Master of Business Analytics, the student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 66 units of graduate subject credit from within a program of study that includes a slate of required and elective subjects, a project class, a pro-seminar, and a summer capstone experience. The candidate must also have been in residence as a graduate student for at least two academic terms. A summer term is also required.

#### ***Master in City Planning***

To be awarded the degree of Master in City Planning, the student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 126 units of graduate subject credit. The student must also complete a thesis acceptable to the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, and have been in residence for a minimum of two regular academic terms.

### ***Master of Engineering***

To be awarded the Master of Engineering degree with specification of the field in which the student has specialized, the student must satisfactorily complete at least 66 units of subject credit (including at least 42 units of graduate subject credit) and a thesis which collectively constitute a structured program of at least 90 units acceptable to the department of the School of Engineering in which the student is enrolled. The candidate must also have been in residence for a minimum of one regular term.

### ***Master of Finance***

To be awarded the Master of Finance (MFin) degree, the student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 66 units of graduate subject credit from within a program of study that includes a slate of required subjects, restricted and general electives, and a pro-seminar. The candidate must also have been in residence as a graduate student for at least two consecutive academic terms (fall and spring). In most cases, a summer term is also required.

### ***Simultaneous Registration for Two Master's Degrees***

**Single thesis.** This degree plan is intended for qualified graduate students who seek academic recognition in two professional fields that, although distinct, have a substantial intellectual connection. The degree plan requires a balanced choice of academic subjects, made with the advice of each of two departments, and by selection of the thesis topic.

To satisfy the minimum requirements for the program, the student must complete (in addition to thesis units) at least 132 units of subject credit, of which 66 units are unique to each department. In those instances where a department or program has established unit requirements in excess of the foregoing minimums, the department or program requirements prevail. Such excess of units in one department may not be applied to the program in the other department.

A student pursuing a Master in City Planning in addition to a second master's degree must have both programs approved in the usual way, but the subject units for the Master in City Planning can be lowered at the discretion of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

The dual-degree Leaders for Global Operations (<http://lgo.mit.edu>) program confers both an MBA from the Sloan School of Management and an SM from one of seven engineering programs.

Individuals who wish to qualify for a Master of Science degree in Real Estate Development, in addition to a Master of Architecture or Master in City Planning degree, will be required to satisfy all the subject requirements of each program. Specifically, candidates for the Master of Architecture degree must take 164 subject units and Master in City Planning degree candidates must take 126 subject units. Individuals who wish to qualify for the master's degree in Real Estate Development also must take at least 66 subject units unique

to this program. Students may submit a single thesis provided it is acceptable to the graduate committees of each program. It is expected that such dual degree candidates will be in residence at least one term longer than expected if enrolled in a single degree program.

In order to be eligible to participate in a dual degree program, students must meet the admissions criteria of both departments. At least two regular terms prior to completion of the program, the student must submit to each department a statement of educational objectives along with a detailed program plan that includes a description of the proposed thesis topic. The total program must meet with the approval of each department, and a petition approved by the Office of Graduate Education describing the program must be filed with the Registrar's Office.

The thesis research must be conducted under the supervision of an approved member of one of the two participating departments, with the other department providing a thesis reader. The thesis must be of superior quality. The single thesis cannot be used to satisfy the thesis requirements of any additional graduate degree programs.

In special cases, the standing committee of an approved interdisciplinary program may act in lieu of one of the two participating departments.

**Two theses.** Occasionally an individual, already admitted for graduate study, may wish to pursue simultaneously two distinct master's programs, fulfilling the thesis requirement with a separate thesis for each degree program. In such cases, the usual unit requirements for each program apply separately. Registration for two degrees is contingent upon approval by the second department of a request for admission. Such a request can be initiated by a petition approved by both departments and approved by the Office of Graduate Education.

### ***Simultaneous Award of Bachelor's and Master's Degrees***

An undergraduate student of the Institute who is enrolled as a candidate for the bachelor's degree may be admitted by a department as a candidate for the master's degree. Students must register as graduate students for at least one regular academic term (not the summer session) to be recommended for the simultaneous award of the bachelor's and master's degrees. The thesis submitted for the master's degree may also be accepted by the department in fulfillment of the undergraduate thesis requirement, if any. A student wishing to pursue this type of academic program must apply for graduate admission in the usual way.

Once a student is classified as a graduate student by the Institute, their eligibility for certain financial aid programs will change. US citizens who are graduate students, and who are enrolled at least half time, are eligible to apply for several types of Title IV federal loans. The interest rates, subsidy rules and origination fees may be different than those for undergraduate students. Graduate students are not eligible for MIT scholarship funds from Student Financial

Services. International students who are graduate students may apply for MIT Loans. More information about graduate financial aid (<https://sfs.mit.edu/graduate-students/guide/overview-of-funding>) as well as instructions and application forms can be found on the Student Financial Services website.

Undergraduate students eligible for a simultaneous degree are entitled to remain in undergraduate housing on the condition that they are within their “eight-term maximum” housing guarantee. Otherwise, ninth-term undergraduate students must apply to the graduate housing waiting list.