

Admission Requirements

Prospective applicants should complete the online application available on the Graduate School homepage at www.valdosta.edu/gradschool/.

Regular admission requirements to graduate programs, detailed in the University catalog and on the VSU Web site are:

1. An earned bachelor's degree from an accredited institution (or its equivalent) with an overall grade point average of at least 3.0 (or its equivalent) on a 4.0 scale.

Additional requirements for admissions to the Master of Science in Biology:

1. An undergraduate degree in biology or a related field with a grade point average of 2.8 in the major;
2. A one-page Statement of Interest, wherein students describe their interest and reasons for applying to the program;
3. Two letters of recommendation;
4. Thesis Option - A written acknowledgement from one department faculty member who agrees to serve as the student's major advisor, if the student is accepted. Realize that no student will be admitted into the graduate program unless that has previously arranged for a committed research mentor. Prospective students should begin as soon as possible contacting faculty members regarding possible positions in their labs. The best approach here is to read the faculty web pages and determine who is doing research of interest to request special permission to complete these courses while pursuing their master's degree, but they must present a curriculum plan to the coordinator of the master's

program detailing the courses needed and when they will be taken. Once course deficiencies are completed, provisional status will be lifted. A provisional student must maintain a 3.0 GPA during their first nine semester credit hours to attain normal graduate status.