

# Blended BS/MS (4+1 pathway) in Computer Science

## Student Handbook

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# Application portal

This new program will kick off starting from Fall 26 and the dept is **accepting applications NOW** for the Fall 26 cohort. For Fall 26 cohort, AY 2026-27 will be Year 4 and AY 2027-28 will be Year 5.

The application deadline for the Spring 26 cycle will be in March 1, 2026.

Application link:

<https://www.csus.edu/graduate-studies/current-students/forms.html>

# Application portal

Computer Science BS+MS Blended  
Program Application Form



SACRAMENTO  
STATE

## Blended BS/MS (4+1 pathway)

This program offers an accelerated route for qualified students to simultaneously complete requirements for **both the BS and MS degrees in computer science within a 5-year timeframe.**

Students in the program can progress from undergraduate to graduate status **without applying for admission through the Office of Graduate Studies.**

## Blended BS/MS (4+1 pathway)

The blended program combines the existing BS and MS programs in Computer Science by allowing undergrads **to blend 12 units towards both degrees.**

**Total units required for Blended BS/MS: 108 (120-12 under) + 30 (grad) = 138**

# Admission Requirements

Students majoring in Computer Science will be eligible to apply to the program if they meet the following criteria:

- Completion of the WPJ or equivalent, eligible for WI course, and completion of the prerequisites for CSC 190 (Senior Project I);
- **Have not yet enrolled in CSC 190 or need one academic year** to meet the BS requirements;
- Have a minimum overall GPA of 3.3; and
- Have a minimum GPA in CSC 130-139 of 3.3

# Application Procedures

Students should follow the following procedure:

- Prior to Week 4 during the semester before taking CSC 190 (Semester 6), students must complete the department application.
- Applicants do not need to pay the graduate program application fee.
- Electronic applications will be submitted to the CSC Graduate Coordinator for review.
- Admitted students will be coded as blended students in the following semester (Semester 7).

# Program of Study

In the two semesters coded as blended students (Semester 7 and Semester 8), students are required to take the following courses:

- CSC 200 Professional Writing in Computer Science (3 units)
- Three graduate-level courses (200-level or higher) in Computer Science (3 units each)

The graduate courses listed above substitute for 3 units of the BS required upper division courses and 9 units of the BS electives.



# Program of Study

At the beginning of the semester completing 12 units of graduate courses listed above and other BS requirements (Semester 8), the student must apply for **transition to graduate status** and the BS degree can be awarded.

## Advancement to MS Candidacy

No later than the second week during their first semester in graduate status (Year 5), the students submit to the department a thesis/project proposal approved by their committees and apply for Advancement to Candidacy (ATC).

The application for ATC must be submitted at least one semester prior to registering for CSC 500/502.

# Planner

Semester 6: **blended program applications** accepted by the department; due to OGS by deadline MARCH 1/OCTOBER 1;

Semester 7: students now coded as blended students

Semester 8: students submit **transition to graduate status paperwork**; due to OGS by deadline MARCH 1/OCTOBER 1;

Semester 9: students are now MS students; by October 1, file Advancement to Candidacy

Semester 10: students enroll in CSC500/502, complete CSC500/502, and graduate

# COMPUTER SCIENCE Blended BS/MS (from Fall 25)

Minimum total units required for BS (120-12) + MS (30) = 138

Fall 2025 GE pattern

This chart demonstrates one possible way to complete the BS/MS requirements

Graduate Core Courses

## FIVE YEAR PLAN

|           |         |                  |                  |                        |                      |                     |          |
|-----------|---------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------|
| YEAR<br>1 | Sem. 1  | CSC 15           | MATH 30 (Area 2) | Area 1A                | Area 1C              | Area 1B             | 16 UNITS |
|           | Sem. 2  | CSC 20           | MATH 31          | Area 3A                | Area 5B^             | Area 4: US HIST     | 16 UNITS |
| YEAR<br>2 | Sem. 3  | CSC 28           | CSC 35           | PHYS 11A (Areas 5A/5C) | ENGL Comp II         | Science Elective    | 16 UNITS |
|           | Sem. 4  | STAT 50/ENGR 115 | CSC 130          | CSC 131                | Area 6               | Area 4: US CON/GOVT | 15 UNITS |
| YEAR<br>3 | Sem. 5  | CSC 133          | CSC 134          | CSC 60                 | CSC19X (1 unit)      | Area 3B             | 13 UNITS |
|           | Sem. 6  | CSC 135          | CSC 137          | CSC19X (1 unit)        | PHIL 103 (UD Area 4) | Math Elective       | UD 3     |
| YEAR<br>4 | Sem. 7  | CSC 190          | CSC 138          | CSC 200 (blend)        | CSC 206 (blend)      | UD 2 or 5*          | 14 UNITS |
|           | Sem. 8  | CSC 191          | CSC 205 (blend)  | CSC 201 (blend)        | Addn. UG Elective    | Addn. UG Elective   | 14 UNITS |
| YEAR<br>5 | Sem. 9  | CSC 290          | CSC 209          | Grad Elective          | Addn. Grad Elective  |                     | 10 UNITS |
|           | Sem. 10 | CSC 500/502      | Grad Elective    | Grad Elective          |                      |                     | 8 UNITS  |

Notes

UD = Upper Division

TOTAL = 138 UNITS

NTO

# All new admitted students

Join CS grad mail-list to keep in the loop for important program announcements !!!

<https://listserv.csus.edu/scripts/wa-CSUS.exe?SUBED1=ECS-CSCGRAD-L&A=1>

# Questions?

If you have any questions, please email Dr. Haiquan Chen, the dept graduate coordinator, at [haiquan.chen@csus.edu](mailto:haiquan.chen@csus.edu)

# Questions?

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