



Policy on Admission of Students Without an Accredited Bachelor's Degree

Purpose

This policy outlines the criteria and procedures for admitting students who do not hold an accredited bachelor's degree into master's degree programs at Saint Paul (MACM and MDiv only). The goal is to ensure that applicants demonstrate the necessary academic preparation, professional experience, and competencies to succeed in advanced studies. Applicants should check with their denomination to be certain it accepts for ordination persons with MDiv/MACM degrees that are not preceded by a bachelor's degree from an accredited school.

Admissions Criteria for Consideration

Applicants without an accredited bachelor's degree may be considered for admission under the following conditions:

- **Academic Preparation:** Applicants possess a high school degree or GED. Applicants also may demonstrate completion of significant undergraduate coursework.
- **Professional Experience:** A minimum of 5 years of relevant professional ministry experience.
- **Alternative Credentials:** Applicants may submit evidence of alternative education, such as certifications, diplomas, or coursework from non-traditional or international institutions.

Application Process

To be considered for admission, applicants must submit:

- A formal application through Saint Paul's admissions portal.
- Official transcripts of all post-secondary education.
- A detailed resume highlighting professional experience.
- A statement explaining why it is not feasible/practical to obtain a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
- A letter of recommendation from a supervisor that describes exemplary performance in ministry or a related field and aptitude for reading and writing at a master's level.

Successful applicants will be admitted under the following conditions to ensure their academic success:

- First-semester enrollment will be limited to 7 credit hours.
- The student must achieve a GPA of 2.5 or better average in the first semester in order to continue. Students who fail to meet the required conditions will be dismissed from Saint Paul.