

## **Guidelines for Biology 4 + 1 Programs**

The new program allows strong students to be admitted early to Master's programs and enroll in graduate courses while they are still undergraduates. The graduate credits earned will count toward both the graduate and undergraduate degrees. Importantly, College of Staten Island will be able to count these students as Bachelor degree graduates when they attain 120 credits. The new program will save students time and money and increase enrollments and revenue in graduate programs that are not at full capacity.

The 4+1 Biology Bachelor's/Master's Program includes the following requirements.

1. Admissions: Students should have accumulated a minimum 75 credits with 3.0 GPA and should begin the application process the following semester. Students will receive an admissions decision prior to selecting the last 30 credits toward their undergraduate degree program.
2. Credits: once admitted to the master's program, the student will register for the advised combination of graduate and undergraduate courses to complete the requisite number of credits to complete the undergraduate degree. If graduate courses substitute for specific undergraduate degree requirements, this should be noted. If graduate courses do not substitute for specific undergraduate degree requirements, students must complete their undergraduate degree requirements using the appropriate graduate and undergraduate courses. Once undergraduate requirements are completed, the undergraduate degree will be conferred. All approved graduate courses taken as an undergraduate will count toward the graduate degree. Graduate courses taken will appear simultaneously on both the undergraduate record and the graduate record as original coursework with grades calculated into the GPA. Double counting 12 credits is accepted.
3. Tuition: students will pay the undergraduate tuition rates up to the number of credits required to earn their baccalaureate degree. Any credits taken after that number will be charged at the appropriate graduate program level.

Approved by the Biology Faculty Meeting on May 7, 2020.