

Graduate Opportunities at The College of New Jersey

Students are offered opportunities to earn master's degrees and graduate-level certificates in a wide variety of fields of study, to gain certification in professional areas, to update and renew themselves professionally or personally through specific courses, and to address contemporary issues or problems in a specific field. Basic to all graduate programs and courses is the College's purpose to develop in each graduate student the skills, knowledge, and commitment to function as a problem-solver and an agent of change.

Admission to Graduate Study

Admission Standards

Admission to graduate study at The College of New Jersey is selective and competitive. Prospective applicants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the contents of this bulletin and the School of Graduate, Global, and Online Education website (<http://graduate.tcnj.edu/>) and to observe carefully the particular requirements of each individual program or option. Admission decisions are based generally on evidence of achievement in appropriate undergraduate studies, strength of recommendations, and other materials submitted with the application. Standards are applied rigorously but not mechanically, as the purpose is to identify applicants who show promise of benefiting from advanced studies and of making significant contributions to both the College community and their chosen professions.

Admissions Procedures

Applications to graduate school should be completed and submitted online at <http://graduate.tcnj.edu/>. It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure that all required application materials have been received by the School of Graduate, Global, and Online Education by the appropriate deadline. Incomplete applications cannot be reviewed. Incomplete applications will be held for one academic year prior to being purged.

Application Deadlines

For information on application deadlines please refer to our website at <http://graduate.tcnj.edu/apply/>.

Admission Categories

Graduate Degree Program/Matriculation

Most students entering The College of New Jersey at the graduate level are candidates for a master's degree.

Individuals applying for matriculation are expected to hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States or proof of equivalent preparation from a foreign college or university, and are required to provide official transcripts (or document evaluation in the case of foreign schools).

Applicants should have a 2.75 cumulative grade point average or a 3.0 in the major at the undergraduate level, although some programs may have a higher requirement; must submit letters of recommendation from individuals who can evaluate their academic performance, relevant work experience, and/or ability to pursue graduate studies; must submit an essay/ statement of professional goals indicating interest in the program and college; and must pay the stated application fee. The College of New Jersey is currently test-optional for graduate-level standardized entrance exams (e.g., GRE and GMAT); however, students with undergraduate GPAs below 3.0 are encouraged to take the exams. Additionally, some programs require scores from specialized sections of standardized tests, other evidence of competence to pursue graduate study, or other documentation as detailed by the specific program requirements. Please see the individual program entry for specifications.

Applicants to Initial Teacher Certification Programs must provide proof of meeting the State of New Jersey Basic Skills Requirement. For test waiver and Basic Skills information, please visit <http://graduate.tcnj.edu/apply/>. Additional materials are required from international students (see "Students from Foreign Countries"). Some programs require interviews or portfolios (see specific program for requirement details). Graduate program candidates are considered and approved for admission by the program admissions committee and endorsed by the School of Graduate, Global, and Online Education.

Applications for matriculation are available online at <http://graduate.tcnj.edu/apply/>.

Non-Matriculation

Qualified applicants who wish to pursue graduate studies for professional renewal or personal growth may apply for non-matriculation. Non-matriculation applications should be completed and submitted online at <http://graduate.tcnj.edu/apply/>. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree and a 2.75 cumulative grade point average or 3.0 in the major from a regionally accredited institution in the United States, or proof of equivalent preparation from a foreign university or college. Applicants must submit an essay calling for a personal evaluation of their strengths and weaknesses and must pay the stated application fee. Admissions are competitive, and decisions are made by program admissions committees. A non-matriculant is not eligible for financial aid.

If accepted, non-matriculated students may enroll in graduate classes that are open to them if they meet the prerequisites and if space is available. Permission of the graduate coordinator and/or the instructor teaching the course may be required for registration for a particular course.

Non-matriculated students may apply to matriculate and become graduate degree or certificate program candidates. Non-

matriculated students may complete up to six credits to be applied to a degree or certificate program if they seek to matriculate and are granted admission. Non-matriculant students are permitted to take more than six graduate credits at the College; however, credits in excess of this threshold may not be applied to a matriculated program.

Status Change from Non-Matriculation to Matriculation

Non-matriculated students who wish to matriculate into a graduate degree or certificate program must submit a formal application online for matriculation with all supporting documentation to the School of Graduate, Global, and Online Education in accordance with announced deadlines. An applicant should become familiar with the completion requirements of each program or program option. Non-matriculation status does not imply or guarantee acceptance into any degree or certification program.

Applications for matriculation are available online at <http://graduate.tcnj.edu/apply/>.

TCNJ Pre-Entrance Health Requirements

The state of New Jersey and TCNJ mandates that incoming students meet pre-entrance health requirements. These requirements apply to matriculated students AND full-time non-matriculated students (full-time = 9 or more course credits). Note that health requirements apply to commuter students attending class on-campus or at an off-campus location. Exceptions may apply for US citizens over the age of 31 and for those students enrolled in fully (100%) online programs as confirmed by the Office of Records & Registration. Requirements can be found at <https://health.tcnj.edu/new-students/pre-entrance-health-requirements-grad/>.

Students from Foreign Countries

Students from countries in which English is not the native language must submit the results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with the graduate program application. All students who attend a non-U.S. institution must have all of their educational documents translated into English and evaluated on a course-by-course basis by an accredited agency as to the U.S. equivalency of their course work. Course descriptions may be required. For information on other documentation required along with the graduate application, including documents needed for a student visa application, see <http://iss.tcnj.edu/>.

Assistantships

Assistantships are periodically available for matriculated graduate students. The nature and number of such opportunities vary from year to year, but typical assignments are to academic departments and administrative offices. For information concerning assistantships and for application forms, please visit our website at <http://graduate.tcnj.edu/>.