

ADMISSION TO FIRST MASTER'S DEGREES

Admission application request forms for all programs are available online at www.brite.edu/admissions.

Admissions Requirements for Master's Degrees

Brite Divinity School is selective in its admissions policies. Through a thoughtful evaluation process the Admissions Committee seeks to accept applicants who are capable of engaging in graduate theological education and give evidence of being able to use that education in the service of the church, academy, and public life. Factors taken into consideration in making this determination include the applicant's academic record, personal references that address the applicant's maturity of character and clarity of purpose, and the applicant's writing ability as reflected in a personal essay.

For admission to first masters degree programs (M.Div., M.T.S., and M.A.T.M.) as well as to certificate programs, a student must possess a bachelor's degree or its equivalent as shown by a complete and certified transcript from an accredited college or university. Ordinarily the Divinity School expects that students will have achieved an overall grade point average of at least 2.75 and an average of not less than 3.0 in courses taken at the junior and senior level. Those with a GPA between 2.50 and 2.749 or whose junior and senior course level work is below 3.0 may be eligible for admission on academic probation. Students admitted on academic probation must limit registration to nine credit hours. Financial aid is available to these students, although continuation of aid is contingent upon satisfactory progress in the student's course of study.

A student admitted to Brite Divinity School is not considered to be a fully matriculated student until that student is formally registered for classes at Brite.

Preparation for Graduate Theological Education. The faculty advises those who are in the process of completing an undergraduate degree to select college courses in the liberal arts and humanities that provide a broad introduction to the history of culture and an understanding of contemporary life and thought. Extensive undergraduate study in religion is not a requirement for admission, although some coursework in religion is generally helpful to students beginning graduate theological education. Before entering Brite Divinity School, prospective students are strongly urged to acquire knowledge of Microsoft Word and Microsoft Outlook, and the ability to navigate within either the Windows or Macintosh operating systems.

Brite Divinity School welcomes applications from those for whom considerable time has elapsed between the completion of their undergraduate degree and their desire to attend a graduate seminary. If, however, these applicants do not meet the minimum academic standards for admission to a degree program, they may be required to take additional upper level courses in the liberal arts in order to gain admission on academic probation.

Personal Interview and Campus Visit. A personal interview with the Director of Admissions or with Brite's Admissions Associate is required of all applicants to the Master of Divinity, Master of Theological Studies, Master of Theology, Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry, Certificate of Theological Studies, and certificate programs. Those who for valid reasons are unable to schedule a personal interview may request an interview by telephone or video conference.

The Office of Admissions strongly encourages prospective students to visit campus. In addition to an interview, a campus visit provides the opportunity to tour the Brite and TCU campus, attend classes, and meet Brite students and faculty. Overnight accommodation may be arranged as needed.

To make an appointment for a personal interview and campus visit, contact the Office of Admissions at Brite Divinity School or fill out the "Schedule a Visit" form at <https://brite.edu/admissions/schedule-a-visit/>

Denominational Endorsement. Typically, applicants admitted into the Master of Divinity program with the intention of preparing for ordained ministry are expected to be certified as ministerial candidates by

the responsible governing body of their denomination or to be making reasonable progress toward such certification. Normally, evidence of such certification must be filed with the office of the Director of Field Education and Supervised Ministry before the student is eligible to enroll in PRTH 65013. Successful Master of Divinity applicants who do not anticipate ordination are not subject to this requirement.

Procedure

Application forms for master's degree programs and certificate programs are available from the Office of Admissions of Brite Divinity School or online at <http://www.brite.edu/admissions> . The applicant must provide an official transcript of all college and university work pursued to date. (Prior to enrollment, the applicant must provide a final transcript that certifies completion of an undergraduate program of study and receipt of a baccalaureate degree or, in the case of the Th.M., a first theological masters degree.)

Application Deadlines

The Masters Admissions Committee of Brite Divinity School meets monthly throughout the year. Applicants are notified promptly of the Committee's decision. If the action is favorable, the applicant will receive an offer of admission as well as an indication of any tuition grant or stipend award. If the Admissions Committee identifies deficiencies, applicants may be required to complete remedial work. Once enrolled, a student who fails to register for two or more semesters in succession must file an application for readmission before permission to re-enroll may be granted.

The non-refundable application fee for all masters degree programs is \$50.

Merit and need-based scholarship and financial aid packages are available throughout the application cycle, though applicants are encouraged to submit their applications by the first Friday in April in order to ensure priority consideration for scholarship support. Earlier deadlines for special awards may apply. If admission has been granted and accepted, a student is eligible to apply for student loans through the Office of Scholarships and Student Financial Aid at TCU. We strongly encourage those requesting student housing to have their applications on file no later than May 1 for the fall semester and November 1 for the spring semester.

The Masters Admissions Committee gives careful consideration to every application. Brite Divinity School, however, reserves the right to deny admission to those applicants who, in the judgment of the Committee, have not demonstrated adequate academic preparation, personal maturity, or emotional stability, or who, in the judgment of the Committee, are not compatible with the Divinity School's self-understanding as described in its mission statement.

COLLABORATIVE DEGREE PROGRAMS

Brite Divinity School and Texas Christian University have joined together to offer students the opportunity to earn masters degrees from each institution. These programs allow students to integrate advanced learning across professional fields and to prepare to serve in a wide variety of ministerial settings and non-profit organizations.

Brite Divinity School-Neeley School of Business

M.Div./M.B.A., M.A.T.M./M.B.A. and M.T.S./M.B.A. Degree Programs

These programs are designed to help graduates apply managerial, financial, operational, and marketing skills as well as diverse theological fields of study and practice to religious and non-profit organizations and bi-vocational careers.

Admissions/Degree Requirements

Candidates must be admitted to Neeley's M.B.A. program and to Brite's Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry (M.A.T.M.), Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) or Master of Divinity (M.Div.) program. Before taking any business courses, the candidate must participate in a START Workshop, which is held every August. In the event a student elects to complete only one degree after having been admitted to both programs, previously allowed course substitutions will be

honored. The student must then meet all remaining requirements at the degree granting institution.

**Brite Divinity School-Harris College of Nursing & Health Sciences
M.Div./M.S.W., M.A.T.M./M.S.W., and M.T.S./M.S.W. Degree Programs**

The purpose of these dual degree offerings is to equip graduates to assume leadership positions in a wide variety of ministry and social service agencies and organizations that promote human rights and social and economic justice.

Admissions/Degree Requirements

Candidates must be admitted to the Department of Social Work's M.S.W. Program and Brite Divinity School's Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry (M.A.T.M.), Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) or Master of Divinity (M.Div.) program. In the event a student elects to complete only one degree after having been admitted to both programs, previously allowed course substitutions will be honored and he/she must then meet all remaining requirements at the degree granting institution. Students must apply for dual degree status prior to completing 21 hours in either program (Advanced Standing MSW students will need to declare at admission into the program).