

## International Three-Year Degrees

In Spring 2025, the Graduate Council approved the following procedural change to Graduate School admissions criteria:

The University of Utah Graduate School will accept completed international three-year bachelor's degrees as eligible for admission into all degree programs that are (1) conferred by an institution recognized by the Ministry of Education (or comparable entity) in the home country; (2) feature a GPA of 3.0 or better; and (3) meet one of the following sets of conditions:

- A minimum of 120 hours of earned credits toward the completed degree
- Accompanied by a completed graduate degree or graduate certificate from an institution of higher education that is (a) recognized by the Ministry of Education (or comparable entity) in the home country or accredited in the United States; and (b) graduate degree or graduate certificate GPA of 3.0 or better
- Conferred by an institution of higher education in participant member nations of the Bologna Process, as registered with the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)

### *GAC Petitions for International Three-Year Degree*

These criteria were developed following extensive review and consultation with institutional stakeholders, peer institutions, and accreditors; and fundamentally informed by the Graduate School's and Office of Admissions' shared commitment to the principle that students accepted for admission at the University of Utah are prepared to meet the demands and rigor of advanced academic study. The Graduate Admissions Committee (GAC)—a subcommittee of the Graduate Council—will review petitions for exceptions to graduate admissions criteria; accordingly, it will also review petitions for exception to international three-year degree acceptance protocol. However, given that the protocol is newly adopted and until sufficient data are gathered relative to ascertaining the breadth and depth of academic preparedness of students bearing these degrees, GAC review of petitions relative to the

international three-year degrees protocol will be very stringent. Academic units are advised to submit to GAC only international three-year degree petitions that feature extraordinary circumstances that, in the assessment of the unit, substantively compensate for any relative lack of academic preparedness as compared to peer applicants who meet all Graduate School criteria for admission.