All students must meet the Requirements for the Accelerated Master’s Degree Programs.

OVERVIEW
Qualified undergraduate students who plan to earn a master’s degree in electrical engineering may enroll in the Accelerated Master’s Program, which enables students to begin working on a master’s degree while still an undergraduate. Students apply to the program in the second semester of their junior year. Following acceptance by the Graduate College, students may take up to nine graduate credits while still an undergraduate. Of these, up to six credits can be counted toward both the B.S. and the M.S. degrees. This is subject to approval of the student’s graduate advisor. Students in the program typically begin work toward their master’s thesis starting in the summer following their junior year.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS
Requirements for Admission to Graduate Studies for the Degree of Master of Science for Accelerated Students
To apply to the program, students must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.20 at the time of application, must submit a letter of application to the graduate program coordinator naming a faculty member who has agreed to serve as their graduate advisor and must complete the Graduate College application.

The Accelerated Master’s Program is only available for electrical engineering and mechanical engineering students who are planning a thesis-based degree.

Minimum Degree Requirements
Advanced courses in electrical engineering, physics, computer science, and mathematics (eighteen to twenty-four credits) with at least fifteen credits appropriately distributed in approved areas of study in the electrical and computer engineering departments. Thesis research (six to twelve credits).

Although a thesis is normally required in the program leading to the M.S. in Electrical Engineering, the thesis may be waived with departmental approval, in favor of additional courses which constitute a non-thesis option. In such cases, the student will be expected to have considerable professional experience, or to submit high quality technical reports as evidence of professional maturity.

In either case, successful completion of the M.S. degree will require passing a comprehensive examination. This examination will be based on course work that was taken in the pursuit of the M.S. degree. Thesis option students will be tested orally at the time of their thesis proposal. Non-thesis option students will be asked to make a report, both written and oral on a design or research topic of current interest which relates to course work taken at UVM. The presentation must be understandable to engineers and scientists, not just professionals working directly on the particular topic.

Comprehensive Examination
M.S. Thesis Option: The student must orally present a proposal for their thesis research at least 3 months prior to graduation. The student’s thesis committee will orally examine the student based on the student’s coursework and research focus.

M.S. Project Option: The student must orally present a proposal for their project research approximately 6 months prior to graduation. The student’s project committee will orally examine the student based on the student’s coursework and research focus.

M.S. Coursework Option: The student must complete a written and/or oral comprehensive exam during the final semester of residence at UVM.

Requirements for Advancement to Candidacy for the Degree of Master of Science
An accredited bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering or equivalent education.