Occasionally an undergraduate student must leave the University unexpectedly before completing their degree. This document offers guidance for students who wish to consider returning to complete a BSOS degree.

Guidelines for Students Who Wish to Complete an Interrupted Degree

1. Complete the reenrollment application to the University of Maryland via the Student Success Office. Apply on this site https://studentsuccess.umd.edu/ to request reenrollment at the University. It is the Student Success Office, not your College/Department, that determines if a student can re-enroll at the University of Maryland.

2. Contact an academic advisor in the BSOS Feller Center or a BSOS academic major to request advice and guidance. If you are unsure about who to contact, start at bsosadvising@umd.edu or call 301-405-1697.

3. If approved to reenroll at the University, students will be directed to meet with BSOS College and Departmental academic advisors for next steps.

4. If approved to re-enroll after 10 or more years away, a student should also expect to receive a “returner letter” from the BSOS Associate Dean summarizing outstanding course requirements.

What to Expect Regarding Remaining Degree Requirements

Re-enrolling students are normally required to meet all of the current University of Maryland degree requirements and credits in residence requirements including:

- at least 30 credits at University of Maryland (normally this is the final 30 credits)
- at least 15 credits at the upper-level at UMD
- at least 12 credits at the upper-level in the major at UMD
- at least 120 credits total (more may be required to meet requirements)
- all current major requirements1
- all current general education requirements2

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1 A returning student may appeal for an exception to completing all current major requirements if all of the previous major requirements were completed prior to departure. In this case, a subset of major courses may still be required.

2 A returning student may appeal for an exception to completing all of the current General Education requirements if most of the CORE requirements were completed prior to departure.
From the UM Undergraduate Catalog: Degree Requirements, Completion of an Interrupted Degree

Students whose registration at the University of Maryland, College Park, has lapsed for more than 10 years shall be required to complete a minimum of 15 credit hours at College Park after their return to campus in order to earn a baccalaureate degree.

Recommendations about courses needed to satisfy the remaining degree requirements will be made at the department level, with approval of the Dean's Office required. The reason for requiring these credits is that many fields change sufficiently in 10 years to require that students take current courses if they are to be awarded a current degree. Exceptions to the requirement for a minimum of 15 credits earned at College Park upon return to the campus can be recommended by the Deans for approval in the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

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Questions about re-enrolling at the University? Email rr-admit@umd.edu.
Questions about returning to a BSOS major? Email bsos-ugdean@umd.edu.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is it possible for a returning student to apply transfer credits from another institution to the Maryland degree?

Re-enrolling students may request permission to enroll at another institution for some of their remaining courses on a case-by-case basis, assuming that all current UM degree and residency requirements are met.

What if my previous major is no longer offered at the University of Maryland?

If your previous major is no longer offered at University of Maryland, the advising team will map the closest options for you to complete your degree in other closely related majors.