GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Program Approval Form

For approval of new programs and deletions or modifications to an existing program.

Action Requested:

[x]	Create New (SCHEV approval required except for minors)
[ ]	Inactivate Existing
[ ]	Modify Existing (check **ALL** that apply)

- [ ] Title (SCHEV approval required except for minors)
- [ ] **Concentration** (Choose one): [ ] *Add* [ ] *Delete* [ ] *Modify*
- [ ] Degree Requirements
- [ ] Admission Standards/ Application Requirements
- [ ] Other Changes: _____

Type (Check one)**:**

[ ]	B.A.	[ ]	B.S.	[ ]	Minor (req. C3 approval)
[ ]	M.A.	[ ]	M.S.	[ ]	M.Ed.
[ ]	Ph.D.		
[ ]	Undergraduate Certificate* (req. C3 approval)		
[ ]	Graduate Certificate*		
[x]	Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's	[ ]	Other:

College/School:	College of Science	**Department:**	CDS		
Submitted by:	Dimitrios Papaconstantopoulos	**Ext:**	3-3624	**Email:**	dpapacon@gmu.edu

Effective Term: Fall 2016

Please note: For students to be admitted to a new degree, minor, certificate or concentration, the program must be fully approved, entered into Banner, and published in the University Catalog.

Justification: (attach separate document if necessary)

Creating an accelerated master's pathway.

	Existing	New/Modified
Program Title: (Required) Title must identify subject matter. Do not include name of college/school/dept. **Concentration(s):**	Computational and Data Sciences, BS (BS-CDS) Computational Science, MS (MS-COMP)	
Admissions Standards / Application Requirements: (Required only if different from those listed in the University Catalog)		3.0 Undergraduate GPA Completion of at least 90 undergraduate credits Completion with GPA of 3:00 or better of the following courses: CDS 230, CDS 205 or CDS 251, CDS 301, CDS 302, CDS 303, CDS 411, CDS 461 or CDS 490 or CSI 500.
Degree Requirements: Consult University Catalog for models, attach separate document if necessary using track changes for modifications		Details below
Courses offered via distance: (if applicable)		
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED:		

*For Certificates Only: Indicate whether students are able to pursue on a [ ] **Full-time basis** [ ] **Part-time basis**

Approval Signatures

Department	Date	College/School	Date	Provost's Office	Date
				Required for Minors and Interdisciplinary Programs	

If this program may impact another unit or is in collaboration with another unit at Mason, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date

For Minors and UG Certificates only (Cross-College Curriculum Committee Approval)

C3 Committee Member	Provost Office	C3 Committee Approval Date

For Graduate Programs Only

Graduate Council Member	Provost Office	Graduate Council Approval Date

Program Proposal Submitted to the College of Science Curriculum Committee (COSCC)

The form above is processed by the Office of the University Registrar. This second page is for the COSCC's reference.
Please complete the applicable portions of this page to clearly communicate what the form above is requesting.

FOR ALL PROGRAMS (required)
Program Title: Computational and Data Sciences, BS/Computational Science Accelerated MS

Date of Departmental Approval:

FOR NEW PROGRAMS (required if creating a new program)

- Reason for the New Program: To provide an easy pathway between the newly-introduced BS-CDS and the MS-COMP.

- Relationship to Existing Programs: Both programs exist.

- Relationship to Existing Courses: There are no additional course requirements.

- Semester of Initial Offering: Fall 2016

- Insert Tentative SCHEV Proposal Below: N/A

Computational and Data Sciences, BS/Accelerated Computational Science MS

Offered by the Department of Computational and Data Sciences (CDS) in the College of Science, this bachelor's/accelerated master's degree program enables enthusiastic and highly qualified undergraduates to obtain the Computational and Data Sciences (CDS), BS and the Computational Science, MS degrees within an accelerated timeframe. The program strategy enables students to undertake graduate coursework during their final year in the bachelor's degree. This 144 credit program prepares students for professional careers where data management, analytics, big data, modeling and simulation are of importance.

Students in this accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the Computational and Data Sciences, BS [hyperlink to be added] and the Computational Science, MS. While the information below is largely comprehensive, students are strongly encouraged to also review the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees section of this catalog.

Admission Requirements

Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.0 may apply for provisional acceptance into this accelerated master's program after completing at least 90 undergraduate credits. Additionally, they will have completed the following courses with a GPA of 3:00 or better: CDS 230, CDS 205 or CDS 251, CDS 301, CDS 302, CDS 303, CDS 411, CDS 461 or CDS 490 or CSI 500.

Applicants to all graduate programs at Mason must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Admissions section of this catalog. However, this accelerated master's does not require the GRE test scores.

While being undergraduate students, accelerated master's students must complete the two graduate courses indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application (obtained from the Office of Academic and Student Affairs) with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. They must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in all coursework and in coursework applied to their major.

At the beginning of their final undergraduate semester, they must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form (found on the Office of the University Registrar website). Students must begin their master's program in the semester immediately following the term of undergraduate degree conferral. Students should consult with their faculty advisor in the Department of Computational and Data Sciences and the Office of Academic and Student Affairs to obtain further guidance.

Degree Requirements

Students admitted to this program may start taking graduate courses after completing 90 undergraduate credits. Up to 6 credits of graduate coursework may be applied to both undergraduate degree and the master's degree. If students earn at least a 3.00 in these classes, they are granted advanced standing in the master's program and must then complete 24 additional credits to receive the master's degree. All other master's degree requirements must be met.

Reserve Graduate Credits

During the bachelor's degree status, students may take up to 6 graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree, but will reduce the subsequent master's degree credits accordingly (e.g., with 6 credits counted towards undergraduate degree plus the maximum 6 reserve credits, the master's degree can be completed with 18 graduate credits). The ability to take courses for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department.

To apply the reserved credits to the master's degree, students must request their transfer from the undergraduate degree to the graduate degree via the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form found on the Office of the University Registrar website.