General Information

Role Statement

UAB’s graduate offerings are shaped by its location in the state’s largest metropolitan area, by its mandate to serve a large and heterogeneous constituency, by its responsibility to contribute to the economic and professional development of Birmingham and the state, and by its role of providing support to a nationally recognized academic health sciences center.

At the graduate level, programs serve the career needs of educators and business leaders, as well as those involved in advancing the frontiers of the health sciences. Training for health professionals is available through programs at the baccalaureate, master’s, doctoral, and professional degree levels.

UAB also has the primary responsibility for meeting the state’s health professional needs. It offers a comprehensive range of programs which encompass both basic preparation and sophisticated graduate and specialty training in medicine, dentistry, optometry, nursing, health professions, and public health.

As one of the nation’s leading research institutions, UAB emphasizes both basic and applied research. Although the majority of the university’s research effort is in the biomedical sciences and related areas, all instructional programs are expected to participate in research activities. UAB’s urban setting necessitates the development of research programs that are responsive to the city’s economic, social, and cultural needs. Much of the research conducted at UAB is interdisciplinary in nature and is organized through centers that bring together experts in a number of related fields to concentrate on a particular problem or issue. UAB attracts more than $400 million annually in research funding and currently ranks 10th among public universities in funding from the National Institutes of Health. the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has named the University of Alabama at Birmingham to its list of colleges and universities to receive its 2015 Community Engagement Classification. UAB is one of 51 universities nationally and the only college in Alabama to be classified for high research activity and community engagement.

As the senior public doctoral-level institution in the state’s major urban area, UAB is committed to providing comprehensive programs in continuing education consistent with the quality and diversity of its other offerings. The university’s faculty, staff, and students also serve as resources to the area through activities related to professional, economic, and cultural growth and development.

Cultural Opportunities

UAB’s urban location offers students unique cultural opportunities. Located within walking distance of the campus is the Five Points South district, where local and unique restaurants, shops, art galleries, and music clubs are located. Not far from campus are the Birmingham Museum of Art, the Civil Rights Institute, the historic Alabama Theater, and the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex. Other nearby sites include Sloss Furnace, a post-Civil War iron foundry which has been converted into a museum and informal music hall, and Oak Mountain Amphitheater, an outdoor facility that features music-industry headliners during the spring and summer concert season.

UAB has a flourishing arts program. As many as 30 major music events are produced each season at UAB, in addition to numerous theater productions and student and professional art exhibitions. The Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center is a state-of-the-art facility featuring 4 formal performance spaces: the 1,300-seat Jemison Concert Hall, the 350-seat Morris K. Sirote proscenium theater, the 170-seat Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall, and the Odess Black Box Theater, which can seat up to 120.

Student Life

Graduate students at UAB have many opportunities to become involved in the life of the university. Information about additional groups, both on and off campus, can be found in the UAB Student Handbook, Direction. Such organizations include: Graduate Student Government (GSG), Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA), Society for Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), and Graduate Career Awareness and Trends (GCAT).

Schools and Degrees

This catalog contains information about graduate programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business, School of Dentistry, School of Education, School of Engineering, School of Health Professions, School of Nursing, School of Optometry, School of Public Health and the Joint Health Sciences.

Most UAB graduate students are working toward a degree; however, some have other educational goals. Graduate level degrees are usually characterized by the level of master’s, specialist or doctoral.

College of Arts & Sciences

Master of Arts
- Anthropology
- Art History
- Communication Management
- English
- History
- Sociology
- Psychology

Master of Public Administration

Master of Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer and Information Sciences
- Computer Forensics and Security Management
- Criminal Justice
- Forensic Science
- Mathematics
- Physics

Doctor of Philosophy
- Applied Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer and Information Sciences
- Medical Sociology
- Physics
- Psychology
Biomedical Sciences/Joint Health Sciences

Interdisciplinary Themes*
Biochemistry, Structural and Stem Cell Biology
Cancer Biology
Cell, Molecular and Developmental Biology
Genetics, Genomics and Bioinformatics
Immunology
Microbiology
Neuroscience
Pathobiology and Molecular Medicine

*Completion of the training requirements in one of the above interdisciplinary themes provides eligibility for conferral of one of the following PhD degrees:

- Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics
- Cell Biology
- Cellular and Molecular Physiology
- Genetics
- Microbiology
- Neurobiology
- Pathology
- Pharmacology and Toxicology

School of Business

Master of Accounting
Master of Business Administration
Master of Science in Management Information Systems

School of Dentistry

Master of Science

School of Education

Master of Arts in Education
Arts Education
Community Health
Early Childhood Education
Educational Leadership
Elementary Education
English as a Second Language
Health Education
High School Education
Kinesiology
Music Education
Reading
School Counseling
Special Education

Master of Science
Instructional Design and Development

Educational Specialist
Educational Leadership
Early Childhood Education
Elementary Education
English as a Second Language
Secondary Education

Special Education: Autism Spectrum Disorder
Teacher Leadership

Doctor of Education
Educational Leadership

Doctor of Philosophy
Early Childhood Education
Health Education Promotion

School of Engineering

Master of Science
Biomedical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Materials Engineering
Mechanical Engineering

Master of Engineering
Advanced Safety Engineering and Management
Construction Engineering Management
Design and Commercialization
Information Engineering and Management

Doctor of Philosophy
Biomedical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Computer Engineering
Interdisciplinary Engineering
Materials Engineering

School of Health Professions

Master of Science

Master of Science in Health Administration
Master of Science in Health Informatics
Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies
Doctorate of Physical Therapy
Doctorate of Science in Administration Health Services

Doctor of Philosophy
Administration Health Services
Nutrition Sciences
Rehabilitation Sciences
School of Nursing
Master of Science in Nursing
Doctor of Nursing Practice
Doctor of Philosophy
School of Optometry
Master of Science
Vision Sciences
Doctor of Philosophy
Vision Sciences

School of Public Health
Master of Public Health
Doctor of Public Health
Master of Science in Public Health
Doctor of Public Health
Doctor of Philosophy