Student Status

Contact Information
All matriculated students are required to have on record with the university accurate local and permanent contact information at all times and may be subject to a registration hold if this information is missing. This includes local address, local telephone number, and valid JHU e-mail address. Parent or legal guardian emergency contact information also must be on record and updated as necessary. This information should be maintained with the Registrar’s Office by using ISIS for Students (https://isis.jhu.edu).

Student Classification (Year of Study)
Student classification refers to the familiar names for the four undergraduate years: freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior. A student’s classification is generally determined by the academic year in which the student’s cohort began the first year of college. In the first year, students in the cohort are designated freshmen. For students transferring into the university, an official student classification will be assigned by the respective advising office after completion of a final transfer credit evaluation. The number of credits a student has earned does not determine class standing. A student who graduates after three years would graduate as a junior.

For students who have been on leave and missed two or more semesters, classification will be determined by the student’s academic advising office when the student returns to the university. If, for example, a student was on leave of absence for an entire academic year, the advising office may assign the student to a cohort one year behind the student’s original cohort.

Students are required to register with their cohort, not on the basis of total credits or expected date of graduation. Plans to graduate early are not grounds for registering before a student’s cohort. If a student who intends to graduate early is closed out of a required course for the major, the student may petition the department offering the course for approval to add the course. The decision rests with the department.

Full-Time Student Status
Undergraduate students at Johns Hopkins University must be registered for a minimum of 12 credits each semester. Students who have not completed degree requirements after eight full-time semesters may register for fewer than 12 credits and pay for courses on a per-credit basis. Prior to a ninth semester, a student may not enroll for fewer than 12 credits. Students who have not completed degree requirements after eight full-time semesters (or four full-time semesters for transfer students) in college may register for less than 12 credits and pay for courses on a per credit basis with approval of the student’s academic advising office.

Personal Leave of Absence
Students may be granted a term leave of absence for personal reasons with the approval of the academic advising office for the student’s school and with a letter from the student’s parent or guardian acknowledging the request for leave. Written requests for a leave of absence should be submitted to the academic advising office in the student’s school. Leaves of absence are granted for specific periods, generally up to one year, and such leaves are regarded as approved interruptions of a student’s program. No tuition or fees are charged while on leave.

Students who fail to return to the university when expected will be considered to have withdrawn from the university.

Medical Leave of Absence (Physical or Mental Health)
Students may be granted a term leave of absence for physical or mental health reasons with the approval of the Office of the Dean of Student Life. Mental health leaves of absence require consultation with the Counseling Center. Physical health leaves of absence require consultation with the Student Health and Wellness Center. No tuition or fees are charged while on leave. Further details are available from the Office of the Dean of Student Life (http://web.jhu.edu/studentlife).

Note for Peabody Double Degree Students
Peabody double degree students may request a leave of absence from the double degree program, but they cannot be granted a leave of absence from only the Homewood or Peabody portion of the program.

Withdrawal from the University
A student who wishes to withdraw from the university with no intent to return should consult with the respective academic advising office in order to submit an official notification. An official notification of withdrawal consists of the following items:

- a letter providing brief reason for withdrawal and effective date
- a letter from parent(s)/guardian(s) acknowledging the student’s withdrawal from JHU

The academic advising office will inform the Office of the Registrar, who will subsequently circulate the notification to other relevant campus offices, such as Student Accounts, Housing, Office of International Services, etc.

An enrolled student who leaves the university without notice, or who fails to register by the second week of the semester, may be considered to have withdrawn from the university.

In the rare situation where a withdrawn student wishes to return to the university, the student must submit a written request for readmission to their respective advising office for evaluation. A student must be formally readmitted before registering for courses. Readmitted students do not pay another matriculation fee.

A student who wishes to withdraw from the university on a temporary basis and intends to return in a future semester should see the information under Leave of Absence (p. 1).

Many departments, institutes, and centers offer undergraduates the opportunity to complete some of the requirements for a master’s degree while still completing the requirements for a bachelor’s degree. Some of these programs offer early admission to the graduate school and may enable a student to complete both bachelor’s and master’s degrees in four years. Other programs are considered five-year programs. For information on what offerings are available in a specific department, refer to the departmental entry.
Student Status

Students in either the School of Arts and Sciences or the School of Engineering must be accepted into a combined program no later than the first semester of their senior year (some departments set an earlier application deadline).

School of Arts and Sciences

Students in a combined program are full-time students and are charged full tuition. This category is reserved only for current JHU full-time undergraduate students who are accepted into a combined graduate program. Such students are eligible to become full-time graduate students upon completion of their undergraduate degree requirements.

School of Engineering

The registration status of Whiting School of Engineering students who have been admitted into a combined bachelor’s/master’s degree program will switch from undergraduate to graduate once they obtain clearance from their respective departments and either:

1. complete the requirements for a bachelor’s degree, or
2. complete eight semesters of full-time undergraduate study, whichever comes first. As soon as this occurs, a student is guaranteed health insurance benefits and becomes eligible for a partial tuition waiver and research and teaching assistantships (the graduate program determines the student’s level of support).

Taking a Course as an Alumnus

JHU alumni who completed their bachelor's degree through the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences or the Whiting School of Engineering may take additional courses in those divisions with permission of the advising office of the school from which they graduated. Students should complete a paper registration form and have it signed in their respective advising office before taking it to the Office of the Registrar for processing. Courses, grades, and credits will appear on a new academic record. Students must follow the rules for earning a second major or a minor after graduating, if applicable.

Finishing a Second Major or a Minor after Graduating

Students who have completed eight or more semesters in college may take an additional course or two after graduation to complete a second major or minor if they have filed an approved plan with their respective advising office before their initial graduation date. The courses, grades, and credits will appear on a new academic record. A notation indicating the additional major or minor will be added to the new academic record, but a new diploma will not be issued. Students must notify their academic advising office when additional courses taken after graduation satisfy another major or minor.

A plan consists of the following:

1. Written approval from the director of undergraduate studies for the additional major/minor.
2. Description of the remaining requirement(s) to be completed. No more than two courses may be needed and these courses must be completed within one year of a student’s initial graduation date.

Second Degrees

Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and Whiting School of Engineering undergraduate-degree alumni who wish to earn a second bachelor’s degree at Hopkins must contact their advising office. Students who receive approval must have already completed the requirements for the first bachelor’s degree and complete an additional 60 credits at Hopkins beyond what they have done for the first degree. Alumni must request permission to pursue a second bachelor’s degree within ten years of the conferral of the first bachelor’s degree. The second bachelor’s degree must be completed within ten years from the starting date of the second bachelor’s degree.