

## The Cedarville Graduate Experience

### Community Covenant

The Cedarville University community, as brothers and sisters in Christ, covenants together to uphold the following core values as an important part of the mutual support and accountability that we extend to one another.

We do not view these core values as matters of mere convenience or personal preference. We believe they are essential marks of lives transformed by God's grace. As a community of born-again believers, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of these marks of spiritual growth and maturity so that God may be glorified on our campus.

- We covenant together to express our love for God through our obedience to the authority of His Word, our practice of spiritual disciplines, and regular expressions of worship and Christian service.
- We covenant together to express our love for others through acts of kindness, wholesome and uplifting speech, redemptive expressions of confrontation and forgiveness, merciful acts to those in need, and loving proclamation of the Gospel.
- We covenant together to be people of integrity and self-control, truthful in our speech, honest in our conduct, and morally pure in both thought and action.
- We covenant together to pursue excellence in all that we do as an expression of our gratitude to God and our desire to be good stewards of all God's gifts, including our talents, time, and resources.
- You may access these guidelines online at [cedarville.edu/gradstudentlife](http://cedarville.edu/gradstudentlife)

### Standards of Conduct

At Cedarville University, we believe that the principles found in the Bible should govern our daily lives. We recognize that our appearance, words, and actions are a manifestation of our relationship to Christ and a testimony to believers. In addition, we believe that regular attendance and involvement in a local church is evidence of a maturing relationship with Christ.

All graduate students are expected to adhere to the guidelines below. You may access these guidelines online at [cedarville.edu/gradstudentlife](http://cedarville.edu/gradstudentlife).

- As a community of born-again believers, we believe that pleasing and glorifying God in all that we do and say is an expression of our gratitude to God's grace and love in our lives (1 Cor. 10:31; 2 Cor. 5:9). We believe it is important to be people of integrity who are truthful in speech and honest in conduct. Therefore, all should seek to serve Christ in an atmosphere free from attitudes of distrust, dishonesty, selfishness, damaging criticism, disrespect, favoritism, unethical conduct, and irreverence (Psalm 15; Matt. 5:33–37; Prov. 15:4; Rom. 13:9–10; Col. 3:8–9; James 2:1–13; Gal. 3:26–29; Rom. 13:1–2; 1 Tim. 2:8).
- The University affirms its belief that our interpersonal relationships are to reflect the biblical principle that all people are made in God's image and are equal in value. We believe it is important to express our love for others through acts of kindness as well as wholesome and uplifting speech (1 Peter 5:5; Eph. 5:21; Phil. 2:3–11; Rom. 14:1–23; 1 Thess. 4:9; Col. 3:12–13). Therefore, it is the expectation that all forms of harassment (which include racial/ethnic, and sexual- and gender-based harassment) are prohibited. In addition, we believe threatening, intimidating, coercing, using abusive or vulgar language, violence or violent threats, or interfering with the performance of other employees are neither God-honoring nor acceptable behaviors within or outside the work place.

- Because of our commitment to moral purity in both thought and action (2 Cor. 7:1; 1 John 3:3), all acts of sexual immorality are viewed as unacceptable behavior (1 Cor. 6:18–20; 1 Thess. 4:3–8).
- Because of our commitment to moral purity in thought and action (2 Cor. 7:1; 1 John 3:3; Matt. 5:27–28), accessing, possessing, and distributing or downloading pornography is prohibited.
- We believe that God has given the gift of intimacy to marriage (Hebrews 13:4). Therefore, we believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity should occur outside of marriage. We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24; Rom. 7:2; 1 Cor. 7:10; Eph. 5:22–23).
- Based on our commitment to moral purity and the gift of intimacy in marriage, we believe that all acts of sexual immorality are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex, i.e., homosexuality, lesbianism, incest, fornication, adultery (Rom. 1:21–27; 1 Cor. 6:9; Gen. 2:24; Eph. 5:31). Therefore, engaging in, living a lifestyle characterized by, or promoting a lifestyle that is in contradiction to this biblical position is prohibited.

Graduate students living on campus will have additional standards of conduct expectations as a member of the Cedarville University residential community. Behavior that is not in compliance with the above standards of conduct or that are a felony violation of state or federal law can result in corrective action up to and including expulsion from the University.

### Admissions Standards

Cedarville University invites applications for its graduate and first professional degree programs from college graduates who are able to present strong academic records and a testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. Applicants generally have a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university, or an institution specially recognized by Cedarville University.

Admission to Cedarville University graduate and first professional degree programs is managed by the associated academic department in cooperation with graduate admissions. Some programs have distinctive requirements, but the application process is similar. All admissions are competitive and reflect the judgment of the academic department for which admission is being sought. Those making admission decisions take into account the student's potential to complete a particular program.

The Graduate Admissions Committee carefully considers each applicant's total record, seeking to make admission decisions that will result in the best fit between the applicant's interests and abilities and the University's expectations and values.



## How to Apply

All forms including the admissions application are available at [cedarville.edu/gradapply](http://cedarville.edu/gradapply).

1. Complete and submit the Graduate Programs Application for Admission along with a \$30 non-refundable application fee. The essay section should be typed (1000-word maximum). The essay will be used to assess both content and communication factors in evaluating your potential success in completing the graduate program.
2. Submit completed recommendation forms from the following:
  - a. Church leader
  - b. Supervisor/employer
  - c. Professional reference
3. Request an official transcript to be sent to Cedarville University from each college and/or university attended. The transcript for your baccalaureate degree must indicate the month and date the degree was granted.
4. Submit the appropriate standardized test score as required by your particular field of study. The test must have been taken within the last five years prior to applying. See admissions standards listed under your particular field of study for required standardized test scores.

Successful applicants typically have received competitive scores on their program-appropriate nationally standardized exams. The organizations sponsoring these national exams explicitly discourage the use of absolute cutoff scores and urge all educational institutions to consider the scores within the context of the student's entire application package. Accordingly, scores from nationally standardized exams will be considered along with other factors in making final admission decisions.

5. International applicants coming from countries in which English is not the native language will need to demonstrate their proficiency in English by taking the TOEFL. Required scores on the TOEFL are a paper-based score of 550 or better, a computer-based score of 213 or better, or an Internet-based score of 80 or better. Cedarville University's institution code for the TOEFL is 1151. The test must have been taken within the last five years unless the applicant has completed an entire baccalaureate or graduate program in residence in the United States. Applicants for graduate and professional programs may be interviewed by a member of the graduate admissions committee and, where beneficial, by representatives from the graduate program for which admission is being sought. The director of graduate admissions will be responsible for arranging these interviews.

Applicants for graduate and first professional degree programs may be interviewed by a member of the graduate admissions committee and, where beneficial, by representatives from the graduate program for which admission is being sought. The director of graduate admissions will be responsible for arranging these interviews.

Graduate and first professional degree programs at Cedarville University vary in regard to the competitiveness of the admissions process and the timeframe in which that process must be completed. Refer to the admissions requirements for your specific program for this information.

## Conditional Acceptance

A graduate student may be granted conditional acceptance and permitted to take up to 11 credit hours (unless otherwise stipulated by the program area) for any of the following reasons:

- Official copies of transcripts have not yet been received by the University.
- Required entrance examination scores have not yet been received by the University.
- The student's academic record does not meet typical graduate admission standards but shows potential for success.

The decision to grant conditional status is made by the Graduate Admissions Committee. Applicants should feel free to contact graduate admissions to check on the status of materials received.

## Academic Information

Cedarville University graduate and first professional degree programs are designed to meet the professional, personal, and spiritual needs of adults who desire to honor God with their careers and lives. Truth from Scripture is integrated with the knowledge taught in each course to provide effective learning and enduring life values. The knowledge and skills learned from the curricular experiences provide adults with an excellent background for professional competence in their chosen fields.

## Academic Advising

Each student is assigned to an academic advisor by the dean or the director of a particular graduate program. The academic advisor offers counsel concerning course scheduling. Students are encouraged to consult their academic advisor prior to registration, whenever an academic problem is encountered, or when considering any changes in their educational program.

## Registration Process

Registration dates for each session are listed in the University academic calendar and on the graduate admissions website at [cedarville.edu/graduate](http://cedarville.edu/graduate). Early registration periods may be designated for currently enrolled students.

Registration materials are distributed online at least one semester prior to the respective registration periods. These materials include the appropriate registration forms, instructions, and a class schedule for the semester. Registration information, including available course offerings and sections, are available online at [cedarville.edu/graduate](http://cedarville.edu/graduate).

