Students are expected to know the rules that govern academic matters. This bulletin presents answers to general questions regarding academic policies. Students with special problems and circumstances should consult the dean or program coordinator of the school that interests them. Responsibility for meeting degree requirements rests upon the student. Each student is expected to be aware of all relevant requirements published in the bulletin under which he/she plans to graduate. The bulletin in force when one first registers is the binding document between the student and the university. However, a student may request permission to meet the requirements of another bulletin in force during his/her years at the university. The student’s freedom to choose the bulletin under which he/she will graduate is limited. Undergraduates should see the section “Student’s Governing Bulletin” (p. 37). Graduate students should see “Residency Requirements and Time Limits” (pp. 51, 52).

**Attendance at the University**

The admission of candidates, their remaining as students, their status, the awarding of academic credits, and the granting of degrees are all subject to the ordinary regulatory powers of the university. It reserves the right to cancel, at its discretion, any of these privileges for reasons considered sufficient by the administration.

School deans reserve the right to review their students’ grades periodically. Together with the faculty, they may also recommend that students performing unsatisfactorily should discontinue their degree programs.

The disciplinary authority of the university president is absolute. The vice presidents, deans, and other officers are responsible for specific cases and in restricted areas.

**Changes in Bulletin Requirements**

The provisions of this bulletin are not to be regarded as an irrevocable contract between the student and the university. The university reserves the right to change any provision or requirement at any time within the student’s term of residence. All regulations adopted and published by the Board of Trustees or the faculty after publication of this bulletin have the same force as those published here.

**Registration**

Students should plan to register during the days assigned to registration on the official academic calendar. Registration is not official until all parts of the registration process have been completed, including financial arrangements.

**Matriculation of First-year Students.** Documentation of readiness to matriculate is required before admitted students will be allowed to register: official high school transcript or GED certificate, ACT or SAT scores, and for international students, minimum TOEFL scores.

**Late Registration.** Students who fail to register during the regular registration period must pay a late-registration fee. Students may not register after the last official day to enter classes.

**Changes in Registration.** A course may be dropped or added by means of a Change of Registration form or via the web during the drop/add period. This Drop/Add form is obtained from the Academic Records Office. After completing the form, the student must get all needed signatures and return the form to the Academic Records Office. The official academic calendar lists the deadline each semester for dropping or adding classes without an entry on the permanent academic record. It also notes the deadline to withdraw from a class with a “W” (Withdrawal) on the permanent record.

**Grading System and Grade-point Averages**

**Grades and Quality Points.** The right to assign grades rests with the teacher of the course. Quality points (on a 4.00 scale) are given to each letter grade (A–F) for use in figuring a student’s grade-point average (GPA). The GPA is the average number of quality points earned per credit hour in all courses which are assigned grades A–F.

- A 4.00 C+ 2.33
- A- 3.67 C 2.00
- B+ 3.33 C- 1.67
- B 3.00 D 1.00
- B- 2.67 F 0.00

**How to Compute Your GPA.** You may calculate your semester GPA by following these steps:

- Multiply the number of credit hours by the number of quality points given to the letter grade earned in each class. (Do the same for each class graded A–F.)
- Add the number of quality points earned in all classes for the semester.
- Divide the total number of quality points by the total number of credit hours attempted.

**Other Grade Report Entries**

Additional grades that may appear on a student’s academic record are defined below.

**AU—Audited Classes (including HN, UA, and UH).** A grade of AU is given for an audited course if the student has met the obligations of the audit agreement. It is possible to audit any class except private music lessons and independent study courses provided (1) there is room in the class, (2) the student has an appropriate background, and (3) the instructor gives permission to attend. The term audit refers to registration for attendance only. All auditors, including honors auditors (HN), are expected to attend all class appointments as agreed upon when the instructor granted auditing privileges.

Auditors must attend at least 80% of the class periods. Those who fail to do so are given a grade of UA ( Unsatisfactory Audit); honors auditors a UH.

A student may change from “credit” to “audit” registration and vice versa within the published time limits. To make this change the student must present the Academic Records Office with a Change of Registration form with the required signatures.

The tuition charge for an audited course is the same as a
course per semester free of charge.

DG—Deferred Grade (including DN). A DG may be given in certain courses recognized to be of such a nature that all the requirements are not likely to be completed within one semester. It may be given for tours, field/clinical experiences, internships, projects and independent study courses, courses requiring research and courses where mastery-level learning is required. The Academic Records Office records a DG only for courses previously recommended by a department and approved by the dean of the appropriate school and/or graduate program committee.

An instructor may designate a time limit for a given course or for a specific situation for the DG to be changed to a letter grade. An instructor may change the DG to a DN—Deferred and Not completable, meaning that the course has not been completed and no longer can be completed because time has run out.

A DG may remain on a student's record when the DG report may request this via the web or at the Academic Records Office.

Grade Reports. No hard copies of grades are mailed to students because they can view and print their grades via the web.

Students who want a parent or organization to receive a printed grade report may request this via the web or at the Academic Records Office.

Transcripts

The Academic Records Office issues transcripts of the student's academic record upon written request by the student. Requests should reach the Academic Records Office at least ten days before the transcripts are needed. (For restrictions, costs and exceptions, see the Financial section of this bulletin.)

Student Responsibilities

Examinations. Credit is not granted in courses unless the required examinations are completed by the student. Students are expected to follow the published examination schedule. In
cases where the schedule requires a student to complete four exams in one day, arrangements may be made with the dean to complete one of the examinations at another time.

Class Attendance. Regular attendance at all classes, laboratories and other academic appointments is required of each student. Faculty members are expected to keep regular attendance records. The syllabus notifies students of the attendance requirements.

Teacher Tardiness. Teachers have the responsibility of getting to class on time. If a teacher is detained and will be late, the teacher must send a message to the class with directions. If after 10 minutes no message has been received, students may leave without penalty. If teacher tardiness persists, students have the right to notify the department chair, or if the teacher is the department chair, to notify the dean.

Class Absences. Whenever the number of absences exceeds 20% (10% for graduate classes) of the total course appointments, the teacher may give a failing grade. Merely being absent from class does not exempt the student from this policy. Absences recorded because of late registration, suspension, and early/late vacation leaves are not excused. The class work missed may be made up only if the teacher allows. Three tardies are equal to one absence.

Registered students are considered class members until they file a Change of Registration form in the Academic Records Office.

Excused Absences. Excuses for absences due to illness are granted by the teacher. Proof of illness is required. Residence hall students are required to see a nurse on the first day of any illness which interferes with class attendance. Non-residence hall students should show written verification of illness obtained from their own physician. Excuses for absences not due to illness are issued directly from the dean’s office.

Excused absences do not remove the student’s responsibility to complete all requirements of a course. Class work is made up by permission of the teacher.

Performance in Related Non-academic Areas. Professional programs sometimes require certain personality traits, lifestyles, clinical aptitudes, or other special competencies. For programs in which such items are specified, students are evaluated in terms of these requirements. These requirements are described in departmental handbooks or in course syllabi.

Academic Integrity. In harmony with the mission statement (p. 10), Andrews University expects that students will demonstrate the ability to think clearly for themselves and exhibit personal and moral integrity in every sphere of life. Thus, students are expected to display honesty in all academic matters.

Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) the following acts:

- Presenting another’s work as one’s own (e.g., placement exams, homework assignments);
- Using materials during a quiz or examination other than those specifically allowed by the teacher or program;
- Stealing, accepting, or studying from stolen quizzes or examination materials;
- Copying from another student during a regular or take-home test or quiz;
- Assisting another in acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., falsifying attendance records, providing unauthorized course materials).

Andrews University takes seriously all acts of academic dishonesty. Such acts as described above are subject to incremental discipline for multiple offenses and severe penalties for some offenses. These acts are tracked in the office of the Provost. Repeated and/or flagrant offenses will be referred to the Committee on Academic Integrity for recommendations on further penalties. Consequences may include denial of admission, revocation of admission, warning from a teacher with or without formal documentation, warning from a chair or academic dean with formal documentation, receipt of a reduced or failing grade with or without notation of the reason on the transcript, suspension or dismissal from the course, suspension or dismissal from the program, expulsion from the university, or degree cancellation. Disciplinary action may be retroactive if academic dishonesty becomes apparent after the student leaves the course, program, or university.

Departments and faculty members may publish additional, perhaps more stringent, penalties for academic dishonesty in specific programs or courses.

Human Subjects Research. All students and faculty conducting any research involving human subjects must apply for approval from the Institutional Review Board. Application forms are available in the Office of Scholarly Research, Room 210, Administration Bldg. (email: irb@andrews.edu).

Graduation Procedures and Degree Conferral

Degrees are awarded three times a year at Andrews University—May, August, and December. Participation in graduation ceremonies is for students who have completed all degree requirements and for those who meet the minimum requirements to participate without completion (see Participation in Graduation Ceremonies below).

Participation without completion applies only to students on the Andrews University main campus. Candidates from affiliation and extension sites must complete all degree requirements and obtain clearance through the Affiliation and Extension Programs Office to participate in main campus graduation ceremonies.

Candidates must meet the following Applications and Final Clearances guidelines for graduation or participation:

Applications and Final Clearances

- Students must file an Application for Graduation/Marching form. Graduation/marching application forms from graduate students will be accepted only when their Advancement to Candidacy form has been submitted. (Graduation/marching application forms are available at and must be returned to the Academic Records Office.) All students filing for December conferral and undergraduate students applying for graduation/marching in May must complete the graduation/marching application no later than the October date specified in the academic calendar. All graduate students applying for
graduation/marching in May must complete the graduation/marching application no later than the January date specified in the academic calendar.
• Transcripts for transfer credit must reach the Academic Records Office a minimum of 15 days before graduation/degree conferral.
• All Incompletes and Deferred Grades in classes needed to complete degree requirements must be changed to a satisfactory grade in the Academic Records Office a minimum of 15 days before graduation/degree conferral.
• Students must receive financial clearance from the Student Financial Services Office to participate in graduation ceremonies or to receive a diploma.
• Diplomas will be ready for distribution beginning two weeks after commencement/degree conferral.

Commencement Services. On-campus commencement services occur in May and August. Students who receive December commencement services or who plan to participate in the ceremony. Those who complete all degree requirements and choose to graduate in absentia forfeit their right to participate in a later graduation ceremony. Those who participate in a graduation ceremony before completing all degree requirements under the terms specified below may not participate for a second time when they complete their requirements.

Graduation in Absentia. At the time of application for graduation/marching, students must indicate whether or not they plan to participate in the ceremony. Those who complete all degree requirements and choose to graduate in absentia forfeit their right to participate in a later graduation ceremony. Those who participate in a graduation ceremony before completing all degree requirements under the terms specified below may not participate for a second time when they complete their requirements.

Participation In Graduation Ceremonies
Graduation ceremonies are intended to recognize students who have completed all degree requirements and to celebrate their achievements. Students who are nearly completed with their degree requirements are also permitted to march and participate in the celebration within guidelines designed to maintain integrity of the degree-awarding process.

Upon submission of their Application for Graduation/Marching by the published deadline, students are authorized academically to participate in graduation ceremonies when they meet one of the following criteria:
1. Following registration for the term culminating in a Spring or Summer graduation ceremony, they fall within one of the following categories:
   a. Undergraduate students who lack no more than 6 semester credits for degree completion and meet both overall and major GPA requirements. Credits lacking include I's, DG's and unregistered work.
      or
   b. Graduate or undergraduate students who lack only completion of an unregistered practicum or internship or student teaching requirement which could be expected to be completed before the next graduation event.
      or
   c. Master of Divinity students who lack no more than 6 semester credits for degree completion, including practical field work courses. Credits lacking include I's, DG's and unregistered work.
2. Master or Specialist students without a thesis or project option who have been advance to degree candidacy, lack no more than 4 semester credits for completion and by the official deadlines have met all other graduate degree requirements, including passing comprehensive exams (if required in the program). Credits lacking include I's, DG's and unregistered work.
3. Master or Specialist students with a thesis or project option who have completed all coursework, passed comprehensive exams (if required), and obtained approval of their thesis/project by the appropriate graduate committee, but have yet to file the thesis/project, as required. Notification of thesis/project approval must reach the Academic Records Office no later than 11:30 a.m. on Friday, one week before graduation.
4. Doctoral students who have completed all coursework, have met all graduate degree requirements, including passing comprehensive exams, and no later than four weeks before the graduation ceremony obtain approval of the appropriate graduate committee following successful defense of their dissertation/project (if required in the program), with one of the following results: “Accept the dissertation/project as defended” or “Accept the dissertation/project with minor revisions.” For candidates whose result is “Accept the dissertation/project with major revisions,” written notification from their committee that they have made satisfactory revisions as required must reach the Academic Records Office no later than 11:30 a.m. on Friday, one week before graduation. For graduation procedures applying to the PhD in Religion and ThD programs see bulletin section on PhD program requirements, “Oral Defense of Dissertation: After the Defense,” p. 359 and the PhD Program Handbook.

The graduation program does not distinguish between those students who have actually completed all requirements and those who have not. All students authorized to participate will receive diploma covers, and all doctoral candidates will be hooded. However, for those who march without completion, diplomas will be issued and dated on the next official graduation or degree conferral date following completion of all degree requirements.

A list of graduates who have completed all requirements and received degrees for each commencement will be made public through a posting on the Andrews University website.

Admission
Admission to Andrews University is available to any student who meets the academic and character requirements of the university and who expresses willingness to cooperate with its policies. Because Andrews University is operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the majority of its students are Seventh-day Adventists. However, no particular religious commitment is required for admission. Any qualified student who would be comfortable within its religious, social, and cultural atmosphere may be admitted. The university does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, creed, disability, national or ethnic origin, sex, marital status or handicap.

Admission to one of the schools of Andrews University does not guarantee admission to a specific department or program within a given school. Transfers from one school to another may be made when the student meets the admission requirements for that school and has the consent of the deans involved.