

Nomination

Individual departments and programs select Honors candidates and send their names to the Honors Committee. Each department or program establishes its own standards and procedures for admission to the Honors Program that should be articulated in writing and available on their websites. Clearly stated criteria might include GPA, written and oral communication skills, viability of the thesis topic, and ability to do independent work. The Committee recommends that each department or program invite no more than 10% of its seniors to participate in the Honors Program. Students who wish to be nominated to the Honors Program should consult with their major department(s) or program(s).

The Honors Committee encourages early identification of candidates. No nominations will be accepted after the deadline listed on the [Honors Timeline Checklist](#). When possible, preparation should begin during the junior year or the Short Term preceding the senior year. Candidates should discuss early the feasibility of their research with their advisors and Ladd Research Librarians.

Bates does not wish to see any disadvantage or interference in a student's education because of a disability. The committee and college provide reasonable accommodations on a case-by-case basis. Please talk with your Thesis Advisor and chair of the Honors Committee to request an accommodation.

A student double majoring may present a single thesis for fulfillment of Honors in both of their major disciplines, if both departments and/or programs agree. To present a single thesis for two majors, the candidate must be separately nominated by both departments and/or programs. Such a candidate must have two advisors, one from each department or program. The student registers for the thesis in one department or program in the fall semester and the other in winter semester.

The Honors thesis is a yearlong project. The candidates nominated in January should have already accomplished substantial work by the end of the first semester. The Honors Committee reserves the right to question the qualifications of candidates whose overall record appears weak.

December graduates can find their [deadline calendar](#) and instructions at and should consult with their advisor to work out logistics. (<http://www.bates.edu/honors/calendar/>)

Even after candidates are nominated to the Honors Program in January, they may withdraw at any time. Faculty may also withdraw students from the Honors Program if their work or progress is not satisfactory. Forms for nomination of both regular and December graduates, and honors withdrawal forms are at <http://www.bates.edu/honors/honors-forms/>.