

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
about Clark University/IDCE's Dual Degree Programs**

**Environmental Science and Policy (M.A.)/Business Administration (M.B.A.)
Community Development and Planning (M.A.)/Business Administration (M.B.A.)**

Q. What is the application deadline?

A. The priority deadline for dual degree applications is February 1. Students are strongly encouraged to submit their applications by this date if they want to be considered for tuition fellowships and want to ensure their place in the class the following fall. Late applications will be accepted up to April 1 as long as there is space available.

Q. How do I apply to the M.B.A. dual degree program?

A. You must submit an application and all required attachments to the IDCE Department. You can view application requirements here: www.clarku.edu/departments/idce/admininformation.cfm.

You must also submit an application simultaneously to the GSOM M.B.A. program. You can view application requirements here: www.clarku.edu/gsom/prospective/dualdegree/jointmbamaesp.cfm.

You will submit just one application fee and deposit to the IDCE Department, which will be considered your "home department." Also, only one transcript and set of recommendation letters need to be submitted. IDCE will share them with GSOM. In your required written essay, which can be used for both applications, please address the reasons why you would like to pursue both degrees.

Q. What is my "home" department?

A. Students applying for the dual degree choose a home department based on their primary interests, motivation for entering the program, and future professional goals. Currently, the IDCE Department offers two dual degree options: ES&P-M.B.A. and CDP-M.B.A. Students whose primary interest is in ES&P or CDP, and for whom business management is not the main career goal, choose IDCE as their home department.

Q. How much is the tuition?

A. For students starting in Fall 2009, a tuition model has been established jointly by the IDCE Department and GSOM. For the first semester, you will be charged IDCE rates, minus any tuition remission fellowship you may receive from IDCE. For the second semester, you will be charged GSOM rates, minus any tuition remission fellowship you may receive from GSOM. You may wish to view the IDCE Funding page for more information about funding your studies: www.clarku.edu/departments/idce/admFunding.cfm.

For students starting in Fall 2010, we will announce a new tuition model once rates have been determined by the Clark University Board of Trustees.

Q. I have seen that this dual degree program has been advertised as being a "pilot" program. What does that mean?

A. Each program has been successfully awarding degrees for decades. Prior to the dual degree option, the typical time to earn individual degrees was 2 years. This is the first year (starting in Fall 2009) that IDCE and GSOM are blending the M.A. in Environmental Science and Policy *or* the M.A. in Community Development and Planning with the M.B.A. into a dual degree program which can be completed in just three years.

Each department is experimenting with the best ways to meet student needs and to advise students during their three years of graduate studies.

You can learn more about IDCE: www.clarku.edu/idce and more about GSOM at: www.clarku.edu/gsom/about/.

Q. Do I need to take the GMAT or GRE?

A. IDCE does not require them, but if submitted, GREs are taken into consideration. Please contact GSOM to learn more about their GMAT or GRE requirements.

Q. What is the structure of the program?

A. The dual degree program is a rigorous endeavor, which is why we only select a group of highly qualified students to pursue two degrees during three years of graduate study—a Master of Art’s degree in Environmental Science & Policy or Community Development and Planning from IDCE and a Master of Business Administration from GSOM. Students should be aware that the dual degree program requires 24 course units (compared with a total of 28 course units if each degree is earned independently). This translates to an average of four classes per semester, which is more than the typical three unit course load for ES&P or CDP M.A. students.

Dual degree students can earn credits during the fall and spring semesters. Additionally, they may apply for internship credit during the summer months and they may be eligible to participate in accelerated sessions during the winter months in GSOM. Credits may also be earned in GSOM summer courses.

The final M.A. project/capstone is a joint endeavor with both the IDCE department and GSOM.

Q. Who will be my advisor?

A. Laura Burgess (GSOM) will advise dual degree students in the areas of registration, housing, student services, and billing questions. She can be reached at: lburgess@clarku.edu. Students will also be assigned a faculty advisor within each department who will advise them on academic matters related to that degree program.

Q. When will applicants be notified if they have been accepted into the dual degree program?

A. Generally, a late spring notification of acceptance is sent out to admitted students. For fall 2009, some of those notices have been delayed.

Q. What careers will graduates of the dual degree program explore?

A. Future professionals who can build bridges between the private and public sectors are increasingly valued, and cross-sectoral career paths are increasingly common.

For the ES&P-M.B.A. dual degree, graduates may consider jobs in environmental consulting, entrepreneurial environmental leadership (like renewable energy systems), sustainable technology businesses, nonprofit operations and management, and corporate sustainability.

For the CDP-M.B.A. dual degree, graduates may consider careers in nonprofit management, higher levels of government, consultation, and private developing of affordable housing and commercial employment projects.