



Degree Forward

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Important Notes

Degree Forward Enrollment Team is available Monday-Friday from 9am - 5pm via email only.

- We ask that you do not initiate contact with Degree Forward staff via text to schedule calls or receive updates on your application. Text messaging is used by our team only for the purposes of scheduling appointments on a case-by-case basis.
- If you have questions, please send an email and include both Ebony Jennings (ebony.jennings@degreeforward.org) and Talisha Brown (talisha.brown@degreeforward.org).
- Please allow 24-48 hours for replies, unless otherwise advised of a longer delay.
- We will respond to all emails sent after hours or on weekends on the next business day.

For all questions related to compensation, employment, school placement, certifications, and/or how the non-education degrees offered in the Degree Forward program work to help you become certified, please reach out to Brandon Phenix at Talent Together via email at brandon.phenix@mitalenttogether.org or via text at (517) 940-8180.

For Degree Forward Coaching questions or inquiries, please visit the [Talent Together Student Resources Site](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

What is my first step & how do I get the application?

Please submit the following registration form: <https://www.degreeforward.org/talent-together>

Where do I find the application and next steps to move forward?

Once your registration form (linked above) is submitted, you will receive an email with the subject line:

"Your next steps with Degree Forward!"

- Reminder: You cannot apply directly to SNHU because that would be enrolling you in their traditional program which is not covered by Talent Together. Please only apply with the link sent in the "next steps" email referenced above.
 - If you have completed all items in this email, then you have completed all the steps needed.
- If you have submitted the registration form linked above, but have not received this email, please check your spam folder first. If it is not there, please resubmit the form.

How does this program work?

- Through Degree Forward, students earn their degree through Southern New Hampshire University's competency-based program. There are no classes, tests, or lectures.
- Students earn credits by completing assignments specific to their chosen degree program. The assignments will require you to complete tasks through the lens of real-world scenarios. All



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assignments can be completed through a Word document, PowerPoint presentation, or Excel spreadsheet, depending on the rubric.

- You will complete these tasks and submit the assignment to SNHU through the online platform, Brightspace until you receive acknowledgment from them that you have mastered the content.
 - When the content is mastered it means you have earned a credit.
 - You will have the option to make revisions and resubmit projects until they are mastered and all projects required for your degree have been completed.
- You will have academic support from Degree Forward coaches until you graduate. there for you to provide all the coaching and support that you need.

Which degree should I apply for?

You can apply for any of the Associate's or Bachelor's degrees listed on the "SNHU Community Partnership" application.

- If you do not have an Associate's degree, please select an Associate level program for the "Academic Program" question.
 - Important Note: You should only select a Bachelor's program for the "Academic Program" question if you already have an Associate's degree.
 - Even if you have more than 60 credits, you should not select a Bachelor's unless you have an Associate's degree.
- Your application isn't complete until you receive a confirmation email from SNHU. Please look out for that after you're done.

I'm worried about completing a Bachelor's degree in a field other than education, and I don't know what program to choose. Where do I start?

First and foremost, it's important to know that Degree Forward was recommended for you by Talent Together to help you achieve your goal of becoming a teacher as expeditiously as possible. Students enrolled with Degree Forward earn their degrees through SNHU's competency-based program to expedite the process of earning a Bachelor's degree, using their previous educational experiences. Also, once you finish your Bachelor's and begin your certification program (the EPP with Talent Together), you'll have the option to do a Master's in Education.

Degree Forward will work with you in partnership with SNHU to decide which program to do. The first question to ask in the process of deciding your degree program is, based on previous credits, in which area are you furthest along? If, after considering this process, you don't see a good option for you, you can defer your Talent Together acceptance and go into another university program sometime by January.

- **Please contact your Talent Together Success Navigator, [Brandon Phenix at Talent Together](#) via email at brandon.phenix@mitalenttogether.org or via text at (517) 940-8180 to learn more about how completing your BA degree with Degree Forward will help you start the certification process for your desired area of teaching.**



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How many of my previous credits will transfer to SNHU?

Credits have to be applicable to the programs offered to be eligible for transfer. There is no guarantee that any or all of your previous credits will be accepted.

When will I know how many credits will be transferred?

Credits evaluations do not begin until ALL transcripts from ALL previous institutions have been received by SNHU.

- Instructions for requesting transcripts are included in the “next steps” email referenced above.
- If you have a hold on transcripts, the balance will need to be paid to have them sent to SNHU or you have the option to waive them and proceed without having them included in your evaluation.
 - Unofficial transcripts cannot be evaluated.

How long will it take me to get done with this program?

What impacts your timeline most with the program is how much time you commit to submitting and mastering projects as you earn credits for each mastered (passed) assignment vs. receiving credit for an individual class, so you can easily make up for credits that did not transfer while earning additional credits more quickly.

Here's how it works:

→ Earning credits with Degree Forward vs. a Traditional Program

- Traditional program: if you take a 3-credit course and the teacher assigns 10 assignments for the semester and you pass them all, you still only earn 3 credits, because that is how much the class is worth.
- Our program: If you pass 10 assignments, you have now earned 10 credits.

During the presentation, someone mentioned they would be sending an email with an example of what the projects would look like, but I haven't received it.

This will be sent to applicants via email as we move closer to the start date.

During the info session, it was mentioned that someone would reach out to tell us which program would give us the most credits.

We will only reach out to advise on this if another program offers more credits than the program you selected on your application.

When will I receive the commitment contract that needs to be signed?

Please reach out to Brandon Phenix at Talent Together via email at brandon.phenix@mitalenttogether.org or via text at (517) 940-8180.