Requirements of Provisional Status -MSMS Program (08/30/13)

Students admitted to the MSMS program with provisional status must:

- have a graduate faculty member agree to be his/her major advisor or advocate prior to admittance. Ideally an advisor will be found. The advisor is someone who shares the student's scholarly interests and will provide assistance in refining thesis topics and carry out other duties typical of a major advisor. If an advisor is not found prior to admission then the provisional student will need to obtain a faculty advocate who will serve as a resource to the student in his/her first semester and help in the identification of an appropriate advisor. It is the student's responsibility to seek out an advisor or advocate and contact them directly during the admissions process.
- obtain a B or better in each core course and maintain a B average each semester in his/her other courses.
- successfully pass (receive a C or better) any undergraduate-level courses deemed necessary by the Admissions Committee prior to completion of his/her first semester in the MSMS program.
- submit a progress report to the Marine and Environmental Sciences Department Chair by the 2nd Monday of every December and May and the last Monday of July.
- have his/her advisor submit a 1 page report on his/her thesis progress by the 2nd Monday of every December and May to the Marine and Environmental Sciences Department Chair. This report should include progress in such areas as: library research; thesis development; laboratory and/or field competency; first-hand experience regarding academic performance; and professional development.
- improve GRE results with the aim of obtaining a target score of 1000 or greater on the verbal and quantitative portions combined, if deemed necessary by the MSMS Admissions Committee. Any student admitted with a GRE score under 1000 should retake the GRE prior to the completion of their first semester in the program.

Student-Submitted Progress Report

Progress reports are due on the second Monday of each December and May and on the last Monday of July. In December and May, a full progress report is due. The full progress report consists of two parts:

1. The first part of the report is an academic progress form which documents progress in MSMS courses. The academic progress form will be filled out and submitted to the Provisional Status Review Committee by the student. Information requested on the form includes titles of each class taken during the current semester, final course grades, and the signatures of his/her current instructors. If final grades are not yet available, then scores from graded tests, reports, or other class exercises may be submitted instead.
2. The second part of the report should be no more than two pages in length and focuses on progress outside the classroom, particularly regarding thesis work. Suggested issues to address include: Has a thesis topic been identified? Has a thesis committee been created? Has library research been initiated? Has an appropriate experiment and/or sampling scheme been designed? Have data been collected? Have analyses and/or statistics been

completed? How many chapters will the thesis be and what are the titles? How much has been written? Have there been any major obstacles to your progress? If so, what is necessary in order to overcome them?

By the last Monday of July, a brief progress report consisting of only part two (progress in research), is to be submitted to the Marine and Environmental Sciences Department Chair.