
MS Statistics: Statistics & Data Science (MSDS)

New Student Enrollment Information

Fall 2026

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Introduction



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Overview

- MSDS Requirements
- Sample Enrollment Plans
- Fall 2026 Enrollment information
- Enrollment Resources
- Questions?

MSDS Program Requirements

- Core courses: 11 credits
 - STAT 601 Statistical Methods I
 - STAT 610 Introduction to Statistical Inference
 - STAT 615 Statistical Learning
- Professional Skills courses: 6 credits
 - STAT 605 Data Science Computing Project
 - STAT 628 Data Science Practicum
- Elective courses: 13 credits
 - Minimum 6 cr 600+ level Statistics course
 - Maximum 3 cr Statistics undergraduate course
 - Maximum one 500+ level course (up to 4 cr) from outside of the Statistics department

Sample Enrollment Plans

2 Year (4 Semester Plan): May 2028 graduation

First Semester

- STAT 601 (4 cr)
- STAT 609 or 610 (3-4 cr)*
- Electives as needed (1-3 cr)

Second Semester**

- STAT 615 (3 cr)
- STAT 610 and/or Electives (3-7 cr)

Third Semester

- STAT 605 (3 cr)
- STAT 628 (3 cr)
- Electives (3 cr)

Fourth Semester

- Any remaining electives (4-7 cr)
 - Visa holding students may request a Reduced Course Load in their final term

1.5 Year (3 Semester Plan): Dec. 2027 graduation

First Semester

- STAT 601 (4 cr)
- STAT 609 or 610 (3-4 cr)*
- STAT 605 or Elective (3 cr)

Second Semester

- STAT 615 (3 cr)
- STAT 610 and/or Electives (3-7 cr)

Third Semester

- STAT 605 or elective (3 cr)
- STAT 628 (3 cr)
- Remaining Electives (minimum 3 cr)

***Students without a previous advanced probability course are recommended to take STAT 609.**

****F-1/J-1 visa holding students must enroll in a minimum of 8 credits in all terms except the final semester**

UW-Madison alumni interested in an accelerated pathway should email visp-msds@stat.wisc.edu for more information.

Fall 2026 Enrollment Information

Enrollment for new graduate students begins on Monday, June 22, at 8:00 am Central time. It is very important that you enroll in classes at your enrollment appointment time, otherwise we may not be able to hold seats for you.

STAT 609 enrollment recommendation*

2 year (4 semester) plan:

- STAT 601 (4 cr)
- STAT 609 (3 cr)
- Elective course (1-3 cr)**

1.5 year (3 semester) plan:

- STAT 601 (4 cr)
- STAT 609 (3 cr)
- STAT 605 or elective course (3 cr)

STAT 610 enrollment recommendation

2 year (4 semester) plan:

- STAT 601 (4 cr)
- STAT 610 (4 cr)

1.5 year (3 semester) plan:

- STAT 601 (4 cr)
- STAT 610 (4 cr)
- STAT 605 or elective course (3 cr)

Fall 2026 MSDS electives can be found [at this link](#).

* Students without a previous advanced probability course are strongly recommended to take STAT 609. Enrollment recommendations were sent via email on June 16.

** F-1/J-1 visa holding students must enroll in a minimum of 8 credits in all terms except the final semester.

Enrollment Resources

- MSDS Program Requirements & Course Descriptions (Graduate Guide):
<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/statistics/statistics-ms/statistics-statistics-data-science-ms/#requirementstext>
- Enrollment Overview:
<https://registrar.wisc.edu/enrollmentoverview/>
- Course Search & Enroll (must be logged in with NetID):
<https://enroll.wisc.edu>
- Course Search & Enroll Knowledge Base (must be logged in with NetID):
<https://kb.wisc.edu/helpdesk/search.php?q=&cat=8136>
- Drop-in Enrollment help (Monday, June 22, 9:30 -10:30 AM Central):
<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/5656616126>
Note: Bring your campus ID number and be prepared to wait up to 15 minutes
- MSDS Email
visp-msds@stat.wisc.edu

Questions?