

Dear Prospective Distance Education Student:

Thank you for expressing interest in the [Distance Education](#) (DE) program through the [Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences](#) (WFSC) at Texas A&M University (TAMU). This program primarily has been chosen by working natural resource professionals as a means to pursue a graduate degree while maintaining their employment. As such, students in this program are typically self-supporting.

The Department offers two degrees through our DE program: A Masters of Wildlife Science (MWS) and a Masters of Natural Resource Development (MNRD). You can obtain additional information, including costs and offered courses, from our [DE website](#) as well as the department's [graduate student page](#).

In general, your semester costs can be broken into three categories: tuition + fees + instructional enhancement = course cost. Generally, it will cost about \$1,575 for three hours of DE course work for in-state students and \$3,600 for out-of-state students. For more information on tuition and fees please visit College of Agriculture and Life Sciences [Distance Education](#) page or [Student Business Services](#) on the cost to attend. This estimator does not account for the additional tuition and administrative fees DE students are charged. However, students taking more than one course a semester does not double your bill.

If you would like more information on graduate studies, please visit the [Office of Graduate and Professional Studies](#) or for university admission requirements visit the [Office of Admissions](#). For more information on Texas A&M University you can visit the [University's website](#).

In regards to the application process, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries have a May 1 deadline for fall admission and September 1 for spring admission for all domestic students. Please try to apply at least 2 months before the deadline to allow time for your application to be processed. Currently international students are not eligible for the DE program.

All information must be sent to the [Office of Admissions](#). The department will not accept any documents for your admissions application. To begin the application process to Texas A&M University, you will need to submit the following:

- 1) Application & Statement of Purpose (submitted at [ApplyTexas](#))
- 2) Application Fee (sent to [Office of Admissions](#))
- 3) GRE Scores ([General Exam](#) only)
 - GRE code 6003
- 4) Official final transcripts from all the college or universities you have attended (sent to [Graduate Admissions](#))
 - If you are in the process of completing a degree you will need to submit an additional transcript once it is complete
- 5) Three letters of recommendation (submitted via the [Applicant Information System](#) (AIS))
- 6) Resume or curriculum vita (sent to [Office of Admissions](#))

A faculty member from WFSC must agree to serve as your advisor **before** you can be accepted into the program. It is up to you to identify a faculty member who will be willing to serve as your advisor. You can obtain a list of our faculty at the department's [faculty directory](#). It helps to speak with the faculty in your area(s) of interest before you apply, so that you can focus your statement of purpose. This may improve your chances of being accepted.

It can take up to approximately one week for your application to be processed once submitted. At that time a student ID number (UIN) is generated. This UIN will be used to access both the [Applicant Information System \(AIS\)](#) and the [Howdy](#) portal. The Howdy portal and AIS are used for tracking the progress of your admission application, requesting letters of recommendation, and managing your student information. You will also be eligible to register for classes using the Howdy portal once you are admitted to Texas A&M University.

If you cannot identify a faculty member who is willing to work with you, you can always apply as a non-degree seeking student. This way, you can take a few classes to see if you are a good fit for the program and network with the faculty. You can take up to 14 hours as a non-degree seeking student and apply them towards a degree.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Stroup
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