

Physics & Astronomy Bridge and Master's Programs

Bridge Programs

A Bridge Program hosts students for 1-2 years who are interested in Ph.D. programs but may need to build upon their academics or research before being accepted. They may involve coaching, mentorship, or other academic support.

American Physical Society [Bridge Sites](#) (mid-Spring applications):

- [California State University Long Beach](#)
 - Contact: Professor Andreas Bill at abill@csulb.edu
- [Florida State University](#)
 - Contact: Simon Capstick at capstick@fsu.edu
- [Indiana University](#)
 - Contact: Professor Jon Urheim at urheim@indiana.edu or Program Assistant Samantha Allen at saiallen@indiana.edu
- [The Ohio State University](#)
 - Contact: Professor Jonathan Pelz at pelz@physics.osu.edu or Program Coordinator Emileigh Beatty at bridgeprogram@physics.osu.edu
- [University of South Florida](#)
 - Contact: Maria Womack at womack@usf.edu
- [University of Central Florida](#)
 - Contact: Professor Talat Rahman at Talat.Rahman@ucf.edu or Program Coordinator Esperanza Soto Arcino at Esperanza.SotoArcino@ucf.edu

Other Bridge Programs:

- [Columbia](#)
- [Fisk-Vanderbilt](#)
- [MIT](#)
- [University of Michigan Imes-Moore Fellows Program in Applied Physics](#)
- [University of Chicago](#) (also offer a Master's Degree in Physical Sciences)
- [Princeton](#) (Physics)
- [Princeton](#) (Astrophysics)
- [UCLA](#)
- Search for programs through [GradMap](#)
- Find information on Masters/Bridge programs from the Astro Better blog on [Masters/Bridge Programs](#) and [Diversity Programs](#)
- Find Post-Baccalaureate resources, including Fellowships and funding, through [Pathways to Science](#)

Master's Programs

Most Physics/Astronomy graduate programs in the U.S. have students apply directly to a Ph.D. program. The programs below offer the opportunity to apply directly into a Master's program or pursue different fields (like teaching, medical physics, online degrees, etc.) or offer terminal Master's degrees.

Arizona Teacher Certification through [Teach Arizona](#)

- 1-year Master's program to qualify students to teach grades 6-12 in Arizona, includes the possibility of full funding with same tuition rates for Arizona residents and non-residents

Master's Degrees in Physics/Astronomy:

- Masters of Science in Engineering Physics from [Appalachian State University](#)
- [Master's in Space Studies](#) and a [Graduate Certificate in Space Studies](#) from [American Military University](#) (online)
- [Johns Hopkins Online](#) Master's in Applied Physics, Space Systems Engineering, and other Engineering degrees
- University of Arizona [Accelerated Master's Program in Atmospheric Sciences](#) (Receive a BS in Physics and M.S. in Atmospheric Sciences in 5 years)
- [University of Maine](#) offers a Ph.D. and M.S. along with a Master's of Engineering degree in Engineering Physics and an interdisciplinary Master of Science in Teaching program
- [University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley](#) offers a Ph.D. and M.S. thesis or non-thesis option
- [San Francisco State University](#) offers an M.S. in Physics with astrophysics coursework available
- [Central Michigan University](#) offers multiple Ph.D. studies and a M.S. in Physics with coursework in astronomy and astrophysics available
- [Washington State University](#) offers an M.S. and Ph.D. degree in Physics

Terminal Master's in US:

- [San Diego State University](#) offers M.S. in Physics, M.A. in Physics, and M.S. in Medical Physics
- [Bowling Green State University](#) offers an M.S. in Physics with a cooperative Ph.D. in collaboration with the University of Toledo
- [Texas A&M Commerce](#) offers an M.S. in Physics (thesis) and an M.S. in Physics with a Physics Teaching Emphasis
- University of Arizona Professional Science [Master's Program in Medical Physics](#)

Programs outside of the U.S. – it's much more common in other countries to complete a Master's degree and then apply for Ph.D. programs separately

- Search for programs on [GoAbroad.com](#)
- Best Global Universities for Physics on [US News & World Report](#)