

**Trinity International University  
Trinity College EXCEL Program, Florida Regional Center  
2006-2007 Catalog Addendum  
November 30, 2006**

**Replacement information for p. 20 to be placed at the beginning of the admissions section, replacing all text up to “Admission to the Christian Ministry Major,” follows:**

## **EXCEL Admissions**

EXCEL degree programs offer an opportunity for adults to complete a Bachelor of Arts degree in Christian Ministry, Elementary Education, Organizational Leadership, or Psychology. A total of 126 semester hours are required for the completion of a bachelor's degree. Students may start with some or no previous college experience and build their degree by selecting from several accelerated clusters of courses and electives, along with prior learning assessment.

### **Accelerated Education Degree Programs**

The EXCEL degree programs are designed to meet the following objectives:

- Provide adult students a flexible means of completing their entire undergraduate degrees in a reasonable time frame without forcing students to abandon work or family responsibilities.
- Meet adult needs for relevance, convenience, and vocational advancement without compromising academic excellence within a Christian liberal arts context.
- Foster key skills such as writing, speaking, critical thinking, problem solving, information literacy, ethical thinking, and the ability to integrate faith, values, and practice.

Students can enter the program at various stages in their academic career and enroll in clusters that proceed one course at a time. Clusters can be combined to form an entire degree program supplemented by transfer hours, elective courses, credit for learning outside the classroom, and credit by examination.

For students to satisfactorily complete an undergraduate degree through Trinity, they may select general education courses, a major, and a minor. They may also take individual classes offered as electives and seek assessment of credit for prior learning.

### **Standard Framework**

- EXCEL is designed to be a nonresidential program.
- Classes meet one time per week for a four-hour block.
- Students generally take one course at a time.
- Students generally stay with the same group of people through their major, forming a cohort.
- Classes typically meet for five to seven weeks.
- Classes may be subdivided into study groups expected to accomplish group tasks in addition to individual work.
- Primary emphasis is placed on building widely transferable skills rather than preparing individuals for specific job functions.
- Skills that cross the curriculum are deemed just as important as content specific to courses.
- Interaction is emphasized in the classroom, focusing on integrative activities and student input. Prior learning is valued and drawn from to enhance the educational environment.

- Integrative papers are the primary means of evaluation, though tests may be used when appropriate to the content.
- Community building occurs outside the classroom using online formats.
- Some general education courses are offered entirely online.

## **Admissions**

Because students often enter Trinity with prior course work, different clusters have different admission requirements. The primary goal of the admission requirements is to ensure that students enter equipped for success.

In order to fairly treat the diversity represented by adult learners, admission criteria may be adjusted by an admissions committee when questions of qualification arise.

### **Standard Admission Requirements**

The standard requirements for admission to EXCEL course work, no matter how many credits are transferred from other institutions, are as follows:

- Attainment of at least 23 years of age before beginning course work
- Proof of high school graduation or GED certification
- Original transcripts from all previous college/university study indicating an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (using 4.0 scale)
- At least two years of significant work, volunteer, or parenting experience
- Two letters of recommendation assessing professional abilities, character, and capacity for university-level study
- A passing score on the Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam by applicants for whom English is not their first language

### **Admission for Those Transferring Fewer than 15 Semester Credits (General Cluster I only)**

Students transferring fewer than 15 credits may be admitted only to General Cluster I of the EXCEL program and only by satisfying one of the following criteria in addition to the standard admission requirements:

- Satisfactory score on a university-designed assessment tool, or
- Minimum ACT score of 19 or SAT score of 900 on tests taken no more than five years previously, or
- Graduation from high school in the top quartile (75th percentile or better) with a GPA no less than 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale). If this last option is chosen, high school graduation can be no more than ten years previous. In addition, transcripts must show at least three English courses, Algebra, Geometry, two Social Studies courses, two Science courses, and two courses in Language or Fine Arts.

### **Admission to General Cluster II, III, IV, or Electives**

Beyond the standard admission requirements, additional requirements for admission to General Cluster II, III, IV, or electives, include

- Completion of at least 25 transferable credits from an accredited college or university or from Trinity (transfer credit must represent "C-" or better work—2.0 on a 4.0 scale)
- ENG 110 College Writing or equivalent with a "C" or better
- Completion of IDS 105R Foundations for Adult Learning with a "D" or better—a EXCEL course