The pre-professional Merchandising Management program typically takes one year to complete. After completing the pre-professional program requirements, students may apply to the professional Merchandising Management program. Students will not be permitted to take professional Merchandising Management coursework without acceptance into the professional Merchandising Management program. If admitted into the professional Merchandising Management program, it will take students three additional years to complete the professional program regardless of transfer credit standing.

Admission into the professional Merchandising Management program is subject to a competitive application process. To apply and be considered for admission, all pre-professional students must meet the following requirements:

- Be declared as a Pre-Merchandising Management major.
- Have a minimum OSU cumulative GPA of 2.5. Note: The average GPA of those who were accepted in the 2014 cohort was 3.23.
- Have completed and received a C- or better in all courses within the Pre-Merchandising Management major by the end of spring 2015. This includes DHE 160, DHE 161, DHE 170, MTH 111, WR 121, and either COMM 111, 114, or 218. This also includes two BACC core science classes.
- Have completed at least 40 credits of course work at OSU by the end of the spring 2015 term. (Transfer credits: 30 credits transferred from an accredited institution may be applied toward the 40 credit requirement).

The deadline for application materials to the professional program is May 1, 2015.

Pre-professional core courses that must be completed by the end of the Spring 2015 term with a C- or better (required to apply to the professional Merchandising Management program):

- DHE 160 Design Perspectives 4
- DHE 161 Design Explorations 4
- DHE 170 Introduction to the Textile & Apparel Industry 4
- MTH 111 College Algebra 4
- WR 121 English Composition (WR I) 3
- COMM 111 Public Speaking 3
- or COMM 114 Argument and Critical Discourse 3
- or COMM 218 Interpersonal Communication 3
- Bacc Core Science 4
- Bacc Core Science 4