Admission Procedures

Eligibility

Washington University encourages and gives full consideration to all applicants for admission and financial aid, without regard to race, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, veteran status, disability or genetic information.

McKelvey School of Engineering is strongly interested in recruiting, enrolling, retaining and graduating students from diverse backgrounds. Applications for admission by students from diverse backgrounds to any of our degree programs are encouraged and welcomed. To the greatest extent possible, students with disabilities are integrated into the student population as equal members.

To be considered for admission into a graduate degree program, applicants must hold a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution prior to starting the graduate program. Most of the engineering degree programs require a previous degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

Current engineering graduate students who wish to be admitted into another engineering graduate program must be admitted at least one semester prior to their anticipated graduation semester.

Students may be admitted to study for the PhD degree directly from baccalaureate study or after undertaking other graduate or professional education, whether at Washington University or at another accredited institution.

Application Process

Degree programs set their own application deadlines, which must be no later than January 15 for doctoral programs. Master’s program deadlines are later; applicants should check deadlines through the McKelvey School of Engineering. It is generally advantageous to the applicant to complete the application well in advance of the deadline.

The application is available online through the School of Engineering website. Applications are ready for final consideration after the required items from the application checklist have been submitted.

All applicants for full-time graduate programs are required to submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores at the time of application, with the exception of the Master of Engineering degree in the Biomedical Innovation program in Biomedical Engineering. Official test scores are required at the time of application.

Admission and financial aid awards are for a specific academic year; students who do not matriculate that year must normally reapply. Admitted students can request a deferral of admission for up to one year, but such special requests require approval of both the admitting program and the admissions office. Applicants to whom admission is not offered may reapply for a future semester.

Admission of International Students

International students considering application to Washington University for graduate study should have a general familiarity with academic practices and university customs in the United States. All international students are required to present evidence of their ability to support themselves financially during graduate study. International students whose native language is not English must submit score reports from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The test should be taken in time for results to reach Washington University directly from Educational Testing Service (ETS) before the application deadline. Official test scores are required at the time of application.

The TOEFL requirement may be waived during the application process with a minimum of three years of documented study at a U.S. institution or an institution in a country where English is the primary language spoken.

Students Not Candidate for Degree (SNCD)

SNCD admission may be granted to qualified students who hold a bachelor's degree or its equivalent, who wish to enroll in graduate courses on a non-degree basis, and who receive approval from a degree program. Examples include students in good standing at other graduate schools and students who wish to test their capabilities in a graduate setting. Students in this category may take a maximum of 9 units, and they may later apply to a degree program and transfer these units to meet degree requirements. SNCD students are not eligible for Title IV Federal Funding.