Admission Procedures

Washington University in St. Louis encourages and gives full consideration to all applicants for admission and financial aid, without regard to race, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, or handicap. University policies and programs are nondiscriminatory.

A student must be admitted to a degree program in Engineering to earn a graduate degree, and the student must be admitted at least one semester prior to his or her anticipated graduation semester. Applications for admission to graduate standing should be filed with Engineering well in advance of the student’s intended date for registering as a graduate-degree candidate. In addition to the application, a student should submit all required supporting documents.

To receive full admission, an applicant who has had no previous graduate work must have:

1. a bachelor's degree in an accredited curriculum in engineering, science or mathematics
2. earned at least a B average during the last two years of undergraduate work
3. the recommendation of the department or program to which the applicant is applying

The department or program recommendation will be based on the applicant’s potential for success in the proposed course of study. To reach this judgment, the department or program will consider the applicant’s undergraduate record, recommendations from former instructors, and if feasible, a personal interview.

All applicants for admission as full-time master's students are strongly encouraged to submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores (verbal, quantitative and written analytical). All applicants to doctoral programs are required to submit these scores.

Students failing to meet all of the criteria for full admission (with the exception of international students not residents of the United States at the time of application) may be recommended by the department or program for provisional admission. Students admitted provisionally must demonstrate their ability to pursue graduate work successfully and obtain recommendation for full admission within two semesters. In order to gain full admission, students admitted provisionally must maintain at least a B average in their course work during their first two semesters.

Students Not Candidate for Degree (SNCD)

Students choosing to take a course without applying to a degree program must be admitted to Engineering as an SNCD. Course prerequisites must be met, and an individual enrolling in a graduate course must typically show proof of a bachelor’s degree. A student who registers for courses as an SNCD and later applies for admission to a graduate program in Engineering will be allowed to count a maximum of nine (9) units taken as an SNCD toward a graduate program, regardless of how many courses were taken as an SNCD.

International Students

International students who apply for admission to graduate standing, in addition to the above requirements, must present evidence of financial responsibility and ability to communicate effectively in the English language.

To demonstrate financial responsibility, the student must have a bank or similar source send a statement certifying that sufficient funds are available for the first year of study. If the funds being certified are in a sponsor's name, then the sponsor must also provide a letter stating that the sponsor is willing to use these funds to support the first year of study.

To prove the ability to use English satisfactorily, the student must pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) given in other countries by the Educational Testing Service or GRE (http://gre.org).