

Frequently Asked Questions:

How do I apply?

The only method for applying to our program is with an online application available on the Cockrell Engineering website: <http://www.engr.utexas.edu/graduate/admission/>

Can the application fee be waived?

Information regarding application fee waivers is at http://www.utexas.edu/ogs/admissions/fee_waiver.html.

Where do I send my application materials?

Submit your application, fee, personal statement, resume (optional), and references online. Upload an official copy of your transcript onto the GIAC website <http://www.utexas.edu/ogs/admissions/howtous.html>. GRE and TOEFL scores are sent by ETS directly to GIAC – photocopies of score reports are NOT accepted.

How will I know when my application is complete?

You may check your current status at <http://www.utexas.edu/ogs/admissions/status.html> and to verify that your documents have been received. Please do not call or email GIAC regarding your status unless you have allowed sufficient time for processing your credentials. A complete file consists of the application, application fee, official transcripts, three letters of reference, personal statement, official GRE and TOEFL (international applicants) scores. While GIAC and the department make every effort to notify you of missing credentials via the online status check, it is ultimately YOUR responsibility to provide a complete application. Also, because GIAC handles applications for the entire university it often takes several weeks before your application is fully processed and forwarded to the faculty for review. To avoid a long delay we encourage you to submit your application materials well before the published deadlines.

How long will it take before I know the decision?

Once your application is complete in all respects it is forwarded to the faculty in your chosen area for review. It may be three-six weeks before a decision is made. Some specialty areas have large numbers of applicants, therefore it may take longer than average for the faculty to reach a decision, however all decisions are made no later than March 31 for summer and fall semesters. You may log into the online status check site to learn the decision.

Who makes the decision on admission?

The faculty in your area of interest reviews each application to that area. The decision is generally based on your academic record, letters of reference, GRE and, in the case of international applicants, TOEFL score. Work experience is sometimes taken into consideration. **MEETING MINIMUM PUBLISHED REQUIREMENTS DOES NOT GUARANTEE ADMISSION.**

Will I get financial assistance?

All applicants who apply are considered for financial aid unless they have funding from another source (eg. government sponsorship, Fulbright, NSF, etc). Decisions on aid are made through your area of interest. Only those applicants with the most outstanding credentials are initially offered aid (usually in the form of a Graduate Research Assistantship or TA) and/or a fellowship. However, this doesn't necessarily mean that you won't receive financial assistance once you enroll.

When are financial aid decisions made?

The first round of financial aid decisions (primarily fellowship offers) are made by mid to late February. The majority of financial offers are made well before April 15, the deadline recognized by most universities as the last day to accept or decline an offer of support for the fall semester. Some offers may not be made until after the student arrives.

How many hours of graduate courses are transferable to U.T.?

Up to 6 hours of GRADUATE LEVEL coursework can be transferred to use toward a masters degree with approval from the Graduate Advisor and the Graduate Dean. Work counted toward a degree at another institution cannot be transferred. Because it is not part of the official record, transferred coursework does not appear on the student's transcript and is not included in the graduate grade point average.