

At a Glance : U.S. Engineering Graduate School Admissions

Timeline

1+ year prior to projected enrollment (August-September)	<p>Research programs. Look for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rankings, ABET accreditation • specialization offerings, research and funding options • dedicated international student office • average student profile <p>Register early for any applicable testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL • GRE • GMAT
9+ months prior (October-February)	<p>Complete Applications Complete Testing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official test scores sent directly to university offices from testing body
3-6 months prior (February-May)	<p>Admissions Decisions Secure Funding</p>

Important Documents

What is a Statement of Purpose?	What to include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong statement of your goals • Academic and Professional Interests • Recommended length: 1 page (2-page maximum) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your background • Current career objective • What sparked your interest in this particular field • Your specific intended research area • Why this program will help you reach your professional goals
What are Letters of Recommendation?	What your letter writer(s) should include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 1-page letter written by a faculty member or someone who knows you well academically • Personalized evidence of your qualifications 	<p>Introduction: How the recommender knows you</p> <p>Body: Reasons they recommend you, personal story evidencing your qualifications</p> <p>Closing: Statement that summarizes primary reasons you should be selected</p>