

## Preparing for Graduate School

- Thinking about graduate school
  - How is graduate study different from undergraduate study?
  - Exploring graduate program options: coursework only or research masters? PhD interests?
  - Exploring graduate schools options: What to consider when selecting schools
  - Developing a timeline for application
- UW CEE Graduate Program
  - **Application deadline: December 15, 2018 (for Autumn 2019 admission)**

### Application Check List

- Application deadline (December 15, 2018)
- Online application form (select master's thesis, master's non-thesis, or PhD preference)
- BSCE graduates applying to CEE will apply for Master of Science in Civil Engineering (MSCE)
  - There are two options: the research-based thesis MSCE and the coursework based non-thesis MSCE
  - If you are unsure which program to apply to select the MSCE Thesis and you will be able to indicate you are interested in the MSCE Non-thesis should you not be admitted to the research program
- GPA (minimum 3.0)
- Test scores (GRE) - UW CEE Dept. requires General GRE
- Personal statement
- Recommendation letters (2-3 are required for UW CEE)
- UW CEE Dept. requires unofficial transcripts to be uploaded in online application
- FAFSA application (priority deadline is January 15, 2018)
- Writing samples or portfolio (for some programs; not required for UW CEE Dept.)
- Resume or C.V. (for some programs; optional for UW CEE Dept.)
- Interviews (for some programs; not required for UW CEE Dept.)

### Admissions Timeline

- Junior year or 1.5-2 years before entering
  - Research areas of interest & schools
  - Develop relationships with potential recommenders
  - Become familiar with admissions process/criteria
- Senior year or 1-1.5 years before entering
  - Request letters of recommendation from faculty. Provide recommenders with plenty of time (ideally 2-6 months) and sufficient information about yourself. Follow up before the deadline and afterwards with a thank you.
  - Prepare for and register for GRE exam
  - Take GRE (by end of November for UW CEE December 15<sup>th</sup> application deadline)
  - Write personal statement (have statement reviewed, then revise and finalize)
  - Check on deadlines and review what's needed (may include transcript, research statement, etc.)
  - If research track, may be good to reach out to faculty in areas of research interest to discuss
  - Check with schools before deadlines to ensure applications are complete
  - Submit FAFSA by January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline
  - Keep track of acceptances, wait lists, rejections
  - Notify schools of your decision

(Adapted from UW Career Center "Applying to Graduate and Professional Schools" Workshop,  
<http://careers.washington.edu/students/workshops#applyingtograduateschool>)

## Web Resources

CEE Information for Prospective Students

<http://www.ce.washington.edu/prospective/grads/apply.html>

Graduate Records Examination (GRE)

[www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org)

UW Graduate School

[www.grad.washington.edu/](http://www.grad.washington.edu/)

UW Office of Educational Assessment (UW and national testing information)

[www.washington.edu/oea/services/testing\\_center/](http://www.washington.edu/oea/services/testing_center/)

Graduate School Information Guide (samples)

[www.gradschools.com](http://www.gradschools.com); [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com); [www.princetonreview.com](http://www.princetonreview.com); [www.fiskeguide.com](http://www.fiskeguide.com)

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What is the deadline for applying to the UW CEE Department?**

A. December 15<sup>th</sup>

**Q: Is there a minimum GRE score required for the UW CEE Department?**

A. No. (However, weak scores may not be competitive for admission or funding. Admitted student average GRE scores posted on the website)

**Q: Can I get a master's in structural (or environmental, etc.) engineering?**

A. Applicants must select an area of specialization (from among the department's six areas of emphasis when applying); however, the degree earned is a Master of Science in Civil Engineering (or PhD track) and does not designate the specialty.

**Q. How much does it cost to attend the UW CEE Graduate Program?**

- Research-based MSCE: The 2017-2018 resident tuition (operating fee) rate for a full-time graduate student in the department is approximately \$6,037 per quarter, (plus student fees). State tuition rates will likely be higher next year. Current tuition rates (Tier III) are available at: [www.washington.edu/students/sfs/sao/tuition/](http://www.washington.edu/students/sfs/sao/tuition/).
- Non-thesis MSCE: the cost for students in the non-thesis program is \$595 per credit, plus student fees. The cost for the 42 credit non-thesis master's degree is about \$24,990 (comparable to projected state tuition rates for four quarters).

**Q: How do I apply for funding for graduate school?**

A. Besides student financial aid, students may apply separately for fellowships available through professional organizations, industry, and outside sources. Below are some resources.

GradSchools.com:

<http://www.gradschools.com/article-category/financial-aid-34>

Graduate Funding Information Service (GFIS), UW Libraries:

<http://commons.lib.washington.edu/services/gfis>

Additional information regarding fellowships is available on the UW Graduate School website:

<http://www.grad.washington.edu/students/fa/fellowships.shtml>

Please note that funding application processes differ by institution.

**Questions?** For CEE Graduate Program information, contact [ceginfo@uw.edu](mailto:ceginfo@uw.edu)