

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Mark A. Emmert, President

April 21, 2008

Dean Matthew O'Donnell College of Engineering Box 352180

Dear Matthew:

Based on the recommendation of its Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs, the Faculty Council on Academic Standards has recommended approval of the revised admission requirements for a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree. A copy of the changes is attached.

I am writing to inform you that the College of Engineering is authorized to specify these requirements beginning autumn quarter 2008.

The new requirements should be incorporated in printed statements and in individual department websites as soon as possible. The *General Catalog* website will be updated accordingly by the Registrar's Office.

Sincerely yours,

Mark A. Emmert

President

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Mariko Navin (with enclosure)

Mr. Robert Corbett (with enclosure)

Dr. Deborah H. Wiegand (with enclosure)

Todd Mildon, J.D. (with enclosure CEE-20080229)



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College of Engineering Advanced Admission Program

Program Goals

To recruit high achieving students to the College of Engineering To reduce pressure on high achieving incoming students to select a major immediately

Overview & Rationale

Many of the top in-state freshman applicants interested in engineering do not accept the UW offer of admission in favor of attending one of several peer institutions. One factor in the student decision is the department admissions process. For high achieving students who are unsure of which engineering discipline they will ultimately choose, the current UW COE admissions options are unattractive. Direct admission to one department does not offer the same level of options as the ability to declare into any one of several majors once a student has explored and determined their field of interest. Likewise, the competitive admissions process currently in place dissuades students based on the concern that they will invest up to two years on prerequisite coursework and possibly be denied admission to their major.

In an effort to recruit the most competitive freshman applicants intending to major in engineering to the University of Washington, the College of Engineering will offer an Advanced Admission to multiple departments to yield 20-30 incoming students representing the top 1-2% of the application field. The selection of these students will be based upon academic achievement as well as intended major. The Advanced Admission program will be treated as a two year pilot program. At the conclusion of the pilot phase, the program will be assessed to determine its continuation.

The number of students selected will be balanced across intended majors in order to minimize the impact to any one department in the college. It is expected that no more than five students per year would enter any single department through the Advanced Admission program. Further, based on historical data, freshman students with such a strong academic record are admitted to their first choice department at a very high rate. Thus, it is likely that the students selected for this program would be admitted to their departments through regular admissions on the basis of their university coursework. However, guaranteeing them their department admission from the beginning may improve the recruitment of top students to the University of Washington.

The Advanced Admission would entitle students to declare the engineering major of their choice (limited to participating departments) at the conclusion of the first academic year provided eligibility requirements are met . A deadline for major declaration would be established, after which the students' Advanced Admission would become "invalid".

Advanced Admission is a recruitment tool. The target population is applicants who meet the following criteria:

- Academic excellence
- 2. Expressed interest in engineering
- 3. Unsure about their interest in any one particular discipline

The Advanced Admission program will aim to compliment existing department direct freshman admission processes. The Advanced Admission selection process will take place after individual departments have made their direct admissions decisions. Once department selections have been made, a pool of Advanced Admission candidates will be created, consisting of department Direct Admits as well as top candidates whose primary academic interest was a department who does not currently admit freshman directly, and were therefore not considered.

Some students admitted directly to departments may receive Advanced Admission offers as a way to more aggressively recruit them to the UW. By offering these top students additional options while congratulating them on their direct admission to a department, the COE can provide a more attractive admission "package" for students who may still be unsure about their choice of major.

At the conclusion of the first year, Advanced Admission students who were also department direct admits may exercise their option to declare a different major.

^{*} Please see following section entitled Eligibility Requirements.

Admissions Process

The EADC will generate a list of Advanced Admission candidates based on high school transcripts, test scores, and comprehensive review scores from the UW Admissions Office. The list of candidates, along with application materials, will be made available to the College of Engineering Council on Educational Policy (CEP). CEP, or a subcommittee thereof, will select 40-50 students to receive Advanced Admission offers, with an expected yield of 30-50%.

The list of candidates for Advanced Admission may be influenced by the direct admissions decisions of the departments. The EADC will collect direct admissions decisions and provide information as necessary to the CEP.

Selected students will receive a letter directly from the College to notify them of their admission to the Advanced Admission program.

Advanced Admission students will be required to file their major declaration with an EADC adviser on or before the Autumn quarter COE undergraduate application deadline (usually July 1) at the conclusion of their first year. The EADC adviser will confirm that all continuation requirements have been met and forward the appropriate information to the relevant department adviser. Students will be considered "admitted" by the department for the following Autumn quarter, receiving the same communications/orientation as other admitted students for that application period.

Eligibility Requirements

To maintain eligibility for Advanced Admission, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in prerequisite courses in mathematics, chemistry, physics, engineering fundamentals, English composition and technical writing; maintain a minimum quarterly GPA of 2.00; and complete a minimum of 25 credits of the prerequisite and other specified courses per academic year.

Advanced Admission students will also be required to enroll in at least one College of Engineering (or related) introductory seminar in their first year (i.e. BIOEN 299, CEE 100, IE 101, or GEN ST 197). The purpose of this requirement is to promote the exploration of the engineering disciplines, preparing the students to make an informed choice of major. The full list of eligible seminars will be maintained by the advising staff in the Engineering Advising & Diversity Center.

Civil and Environmental Engineering Catalog Copy

Department Admission Requirements

- 1. Admission to the department is usually at the junior level. Admission is competitive. Thus, completion of minimum requirements described below does not guarantee admission. All applicants have the right to petition and appeal the department's admission decision. Applications are accepted for autumn quarter application deadline is July 1. See department office for admission
- 2. The primary admission criterion is probable success in the engineering degree program as evidenced by academic performance, work experience, and other factors.
- 3. Completion of the following courses with a minimum grade of 2.0 in each course and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50: MATH 124, MATH 125, MATH 126, MATH 308; CHEM 142; PHYS 121, PHYS 122; AMATH 301 or CSE/ENGR 142 (AMATH 301 strongly recommended); A A 210; CEE 220; M E 230; and 5 credits of English composition.
- 4. Prospective students should read the information on prerequisite courses and application procedures on the department <u>Web site</u>. Applications are accepted through the College of Engineering <u>online application form</u>.

Students may also declare into the Civil and Environmental Engineering degree program through the College of Engineering Advanced Admission program (see College of Engineering section for Advanced Admission entrance and continuation requirements). The Department also admits a small number of qualified freshmen directly in to the major through its Freshman Direct Admission program (see Department Website for additional information).