

Computer Science

TO: Prospective Computer Science Graduate Students
From: Computer Science & Engineering Graduate Committee

Thank you for your interest in the Computer Science & Engineering Graduate Program at the University of North Texas.

Deadlines for applying are as follows: **Fall Semester- March 1st** **Spring Semester- October 1st**

All materials for your application, including all official test scores, letters of recommendation, Assistantship Applications and transcripts, must arrive at the Graduate School admissions office by the dates listed above. You must request official GRE/TOEFL scores early to insure that they arrive by the deadlines. Complete applications received by the deadline will be ranked and the top applicants will be admitted.

If the complete application has not been received by the deadline, it cannot be processed and ranked.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Effective: August 1st, 2005

All students¹ applying for graduate study, Master's or PhD, **must** take the **GRE** test. **GRE** guidelines are based on statistics for all GRE scores of students interested in graduate study in Computer Science & Engineering, as released by ETS (the Educational Testing Services). These statistics change as new figures are released by ETS. In addition, international applicants who do not have a previous degree from a U.S. institution must take the **TOEFL** exam. It is the student's responsibility to have official scores sent from ETS to the University of North Texas and those scores must be **received by the deadlines** in order to be considered for admission that semester.

TYPICAL SCORES FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

Master's Applicants:

GRE: Verbal 400
Quantitative 700
Analytical 600
(Exam prior to 10/01/02)
Analytical 4.0
(Exam after 10/01/02)

TOEFL: 580 written exams / 237 Computer exams

GPA: 3.0 in prior work

Letters of Recommendation: None required

Doctoral (PhD) Applicants:

GRE: Verbal 50%
Quantitative 700
Analytical 600
(Exam prior to 10/01/02)
Analytical 4.5
(Exam after 10/01/02)

TOEFL: 580 written exams / 237 Computer Exam

GPA: 3.5 in prior work

Letters of Recommendation: 3

A prior Computer Science & Engineering degree is not required for admission to the Master program, but the admissions committee will look for evidence that the applicant has a good chance of thriving in a scientific graduate program. A prior Computer Science & Engineering degree, or substantial Computer Science & Engineering experience, is required of Ph.D. applicants.

Admission is competitive and based on the number of positions available in our program.

MAINTAINING GRADUATE STANDING

All graduate students are expected to make satisfactory progress toward a degree. An overall B average must be maintained, and two courses per year (not previously attempted) must be completed or evidence submitted showing activity in thesis or dissertation work.

For the M.S. degree, all requirements must be completed within six years from the date of admission. Students accepted in the Ph.D. program must be admitted to candidacy within three or five years from their date of admission to the Ph.D. program depending on whether or not the student already has a Master's degree. After admission to candidacy, all requirements, including the dissertation and the final oral exam, must be completed within five additional years.

Any provisionally admitted student who fails to fulfill the requirements specified at admission or any student who for two successive semesters fails to maintain at least a B average will be dropped from the program, unless after a review of the student's overall record, it is the opinion of the Graduate Committee that the student has demonstrated sufficient potential to pursue the graduate program successfully. In this case, probationary status will be granted for one semester.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Teaching Assistantship or Teaching Fellow (TA/TF) positions are offered to current Computer Science & Engineering majors who are attending classes at UNT. Prospective students are welcome to apply, but these positions are very rarely offered to potential new students. Research Assistant (RA) positions are selected by the individual professors from their current students. Students must submit a completed TA/TF Assistantship Application Form, **separate from the Admission Application form**, to the Computer Science & Engineering Department. The application form is available on the website at <http://www.cs.unt.edu/~gradinfo/assist.pdf>. The complete application has to arrive to the department by the appropriate deadline to be considered. All application materials (including official test scores, letters of recommendation, Admission applications, and transcripts) must be received **before** the following deadlines: **Fall Semester: March 1st** **Spring Semester: October 1st**

¹ Except Graduates of the Department of Computer Science & Engineering at The University of North Texas

Master's Degree Requirements

The Computer Science and Engineering Department offers two Master's Degree options:

Option A: Thesis Option (31 hours that include CSCE 5020 and 6 hours of thesis). Leveling courses cannot be counted toward the degree plan hours.

Option B: Course Option (37 hours that include CSCE 5020 and may include 3 hours of project or 6 hours of problem in lieu of thesis). Leveling courses cannot be counted toward the degree plan hours.

Course Selection

All master's students in computer science must complete CSCE 5150, Analysis of Computer Algorithms, with a grade of B or better. The remaining courses and areas of specialization are selected in consultation with the student's advisor. A list of specializations are available in the CSE main office.

Ph.D. Degree Requirements

In addition to satisfying the general requirement for all UNT doctoral degrees listed in the Graduate Catalog, each Ph.D. student must satisfactorily complete the following:

1. **A minimum of 12 hours of 6000 level organized courses in Computer Science and Engineering**
2. **The residence requirement**, consisting of two consecutive terms/semesters of enrollment in at least 9 semester hours.
3. **PhD Qualifying Requirements:**
 - a. A student shall complete with a grade of B or higher, a theoretical course such as Analysis of Algorithms, that is recommended/approved by the student's PhD committee.
 - b. Formation of a PhD committee after at most four (4) long semesters. This committee shall consist of the student's advisor (major professor) and at least three (3) additional members.
 - c. Student must have a copy of their Degree Plan, complete and approved by the Graduate School.
 - d. An oral exam to be conducted by the student's PhD committee to assure the research readiness of the candidate. The format of this Oral exam is to be determined by the student's PhD committee. Unless specified otherwise, the Research Presentation as part of the Research Readiness Exam will serve as our tool requirement.
4. **Dissertation Proposal Defense:** An oral presentation of a detailed research plan. The research plan (prospectus) is distributed to the committee well in advance and an examination announcement will be distributed for interested graduate faculty and students.
5. **Dissertation Defense:** Upon completion, the dissertation is to be distributed to the committee members at least 4 weeks prior to the final examination date. The candidate will prepare a formal presentation of their dissertation research and results to be defended during an oral exam.
6. Upon completion of the Dissertation Defense, the student shall be required to present a departmental colloquium upon completion of all other Ph.D. requirements. The colloquium is deemed to be different from the dissertation defense and shall prepare the candidate to present their research to a broader audience.

Pass- Through Master's (30 hours of course work)

Pass-through degree only. Students who have completed the comprehensive exams may apply for this option after the completion of 40 hours in the doctoral program.