Transferring to Engineering? Process, Deadlines, and Advice

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[studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/personal-growth/career-exploration]
Who is this transfer session targeting?

• This IDT and ICT transfer session is for:
  • Current ENGR students wanting different major (IDT)
  • Students prior to Fall 2017 wanting into ENGR (ICT)

• If Fall 2017 freshman (non ENGR):  
  • No direct transfer into ENGR  
  • Must first go to PREP (within DGS)  
  • Attend PREP info session

• If already in PREP:  
  • Follow their guidelines and transfer process
The college of engineering is transitioning to a new transfer process *made next 2 slides instead*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From college</th>
<th>Came before sum2017</th>
<th>Came after sum2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENG</td>
<td>ENG-IDT</td>
<td>ENG-IDT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DGS-PREP</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>ENG-ICT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DGS-general</td>
<td>ENG-ICT</td>
<td>DGS-PREP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All others (*)</td>
<td>ENG-ICT</td>
<td>DGS-PREP (**)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Came as freshmen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Came as transfer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not eligible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) Exceptions: LAS-”CS”, LAS-PHYS do ENG-ICT into CS, EPHYS

(**) Students are giving up their primary degree
The college of engineering is transitioning to a new transfer process for >=FA17 students.

(*) Students are giving up their primary degree

(*) Students who joined >=FA17 as Transfer are NOT eligible for ICT (PREP+ENGR)

(*) Exceptions: LAS-"CS", LAS-PHYS do ENG-ICT into CS, EPHYS
The college of engineering will apply the “old” transfer process for <FA17 students

(*) Students are giving up their primary degree

(*) Students who joined >=FA17 as Transfer are NOT eligible for ICT (PREP+ENGR)

(*) Exceptions: LAS-“CS”, LAS-PHYS do ENG-ICT into CS, EPHYS
The college of engineering is transitioning to a new transfer process.

- Transfer Requirements
- Specific majors
- Process and Review
Transfer Requirements

Specific majors

Process and Review
Engineering has a minimum set of core required courses for transfer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RHET 105 (or ESL)</th>
<th>MATH 221</th>
<th>CHEM 102/103</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MATH 231</td>
<td>PHYS 211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://go.engineering.Illinois.edu/ExploreMajor
Engineering needs to see your aptitude to succeed in multiple technical courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Must complete the minimum required core courses.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>And...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 technical courses every semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(First semester freshman can be 2 technical).</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As and Bs in all your math, science, and engineering courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(Technical GPA)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not drop “restricted” engineering-related courses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic success is not only about GPA but about progression similar to ENGR students

Progressing nicely! Keep up the good work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Semester</th>
<th>2nd Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chem 102/103: B+</td>
<td>Phys 211: B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 220: A-</td>
<td>CS 101: B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhet 105:</td>
<td>Math 231: A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 102: B</td>
<td>SE 101: B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phil 102: B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 credits</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.29 GPA</td>
<td>3.33 GPA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not enough credits, not enough technical!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Semester</th>
<th>2nd Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhet 105: A</td>
<td>Math 231: A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 221: A</td>
<td>Psyc 100: B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 102: B+</td>
<td>Phil 102: A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATMS 120: A+</td>
<td>Econ 103: A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 credits</td>
<td>13 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.85 GPA</td>
<td>3.79 GPA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dropping key courses could jeopardize ability to be accepted into ENGR

- CHEM 102/103, 104/105, 202/203, 204/205
- CS 101 or 125
- MATH 220/221, 225, 231, 241, 285 or 286
- PHYS 211, 212, 213, or 214
- RHET 101, 102, or 105, CMN 111 or 112
- ESL 111, 112, or 115
Transfer Requirements

Specific majors

Process and Review
Specific majors have extra **required** courses beyond the minimum engineering core.
Specific majors have higher competitiveness because of space constraints and high demand.

We look at GPA (Overall and Technical) 
(Competitive) BIOE, CS, ME, COMPE, EE
(Moderate to Limited) AERO, CEE, IE
(Open) ABE, EM, PHYS, NPRE, SED, MSE

For PREP students only: http://dgs.illinois.edu/current-prep-students
For successful transfer you need the **minimum core courses** and additional ones (if required), plus good portfolio **narrative that fits** intended major.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Semester</th>
<th>2nd Semester</th>
<th>Personal narrative...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 221: B+</td>
<td>Math 231: B+</td>
<td>Ever since I visited the Hoover Dam, I’ve been interested in power sources and different methods of generating energy. The more I have explored how energy is created, stored, and transported to consumers, the more I’ve become intrigued with <strong>NPRE</strong> as a possible major. I am particularly interested in nuclear fission and fusion and research surrounding...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chem 102/103: A-</td>
<td>Phys 211: B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NPRE 100: A-</strong></td>
<td>CLCV 115: B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 102: B</td>
<td>CS 101: B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhet 105: B</td>
<td>KIN 247: B+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Core required engineering courses.**

**Plus extra engineering and department-related courses that show interest in major.**

**And a great personal narrative from portfolio that highlights interest in the prospective major.**

Note that **NPRE** does not have extra required courses beyond the minimum core.
For successful transfer you need the **minimum core courses** and additional ones (if required), plus good portfolio narrative that fits intended major.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Semester</th>
<th>2nd Semester</th>
<th>Personal narrative...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 231: A-</td>
<td>Math 241: B+</td>
<td>In high school I took circuits and signals and robotics courses through PLTW. I became fascinated with engineering and electronics. After taking the ECE 110 course, I know EE is the major for me! The electronic car project in the lab was a perfect building block to my experiences in iRobotics club. I want to continue incorporating the EE and CE side of the curriculum to better understand robots and machine learning...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys 211: B</td>
<td>Phys 212: A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECE 110: A-</td>
<td>ECE 120: A-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Econ 102: B</td>
<td>Phil 102: B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIN 102: B+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rhet 105, Chem 102, Math 220 AP credit.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Core required engineering courses.
- Plus required department course (ECE 110 or 120).
- Plus extra engineering and department-related courses that show interest in major.
- And a great personal **narrative** from portfolio that highlights interest in the prospective major.
Transfer Requirements

Specific majors

Process and Review
The application deadline is typically mid-semester for a next semester transfer

- March 1 for Fall ICT
- October 1 for Spring ICT

@ 11:59PM

**Missing** the deadline will **postpone** your application to the **following** semester

[gtmhub.com]
Would you start building your resume five minutes before interviewing for a job?

1. Build Resume

2. Interview

1. Explore (for YOU)

2. Apply (for US)

[forbes.com] [indianexpress.com]
Working on your portfolio will help you explore, evaluate and ultimately craft your narrative.

Why engineering and which major?

What do you find interesting?

What field do you want to work in?

What are your academic strengths?

What is your course plan?
You should go back and edit your Exploration Portfolio as often as needed.

Your interests might be changing.

You may have been involved in more activities.

Mid-Semester assessment

Post-Semester assessment
You should not be afraid to ask yourself important questions

Am I doing well?

Am I making good progress?

Do I like my classes?

Visits to advisors are an important part of the Exploration process
You should keep an open mind on various majors, engineering and non-engineering

Your performance in certain classes will help you refine your path and indicate best fit
You should keep an open mind on various majors, engineering and non-engineering

You may name \textbf{and} rank \textit{up to} three choices in your application

\textit{Apply only to the major(s) you are \textbf{genuinely} interested in.}

Your application will be reviewed according to how you ranked each major.

\textit{You will only be considered for your 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} choice if we cannot accommodate you in your top choice.}
You should keep an open mind on various majors, engineering and non-engineering

Majors that are high in demand can only be selected as “top choice”.

Currently, these include BIOE, COMPE, CS, EE, ME.

If your application is approved, we will not consider a future request from you to transfer.
We will wait until current semester grades are posted to review applications

**College Committee Reviews** Applicants *(after semester is over)*
Feedback solicited from departments.
We will look at a combination of your overall performance and your portfolio.
We will look at a combination of your overall performance and your portfolio

Your Portfolio

We will pay particular attention to your narrative and overall fit

*If you listed two majors, do NOT only write about your top choice*
We will look at a combination of your overall performance and your portfolio.

We will pay particular attention to technical classes, loads each semester, and fit for majors.

We will also pay attention to non-technical classes.
If accepted, meet your new department advisors! Discuss classes.

If denied, explore options:
- **Plan A.** Letter encourages you to apply again later
- **Plan B.** Explore non-ENG majors

College Committee Reviews Applicants *(after semester is over)*
Feedback solicited from departments.

College Committee Makes Decision & Notifies Student *(before next semester starts)*
Top Questions...

1. Do I really need to do the pre-req courses before applying?
2. How long are you expecting the responses to be?
3. Do you gear your answers only to your top choice major?
4. Will a major transfer affect my minor?
5. Besides good GPA, what counts and helps my chances?
6. Can I transfer and then add a second major?

Any other questions from you?