

# ADMISSION

## Admission Policies, Criteria, and Procedures

In carrying out its mission, the School of Engineering admits graduate students to Master of Science degree programs in management of technology, software engineering, electrical and computer engineering, and mechanical engineering. Candidates for admission to those programs must have earned the requisite bachelor's degree from a regional accredited college or university or the international equivalent, and have knowledge and skills in certain areas such as computer programming and statistics (and financial accounting, in the case of the management of technology program). Students with gaps in those areas are expected to complete bridge courses soon after they enter the program. Students create their plan of study early in their graduate career, under the supervision and guidance of program directors, so that they may meet their educational and professional goals in a time-effective and intellectually satisfying manner. Graduate courses are offered in evening classes and on weekends to serve the needs of part-time graduate students from the regional technology and business community, as well as the needs of full-time graduate students. Class sizes are designed to emphasize interaction between participants and faculty. All international students will be evaluated during orientation to determine their level of English language skills and placed in an appropriate course designed for graduate students during their first semester to help them be more successful in the areas of writing and research.

### Applied Data Science

Admission will be granted to applicants with a bachelor's degree and with competencies that will allow them to pursue graduate coursework. Knowledge and/or experience in programming, mathematics, and specific domains is necessary. Gaps in knowledge and experience can be remedied by introductory computing and or domain-specific bridge courses. These additional prerequisites are determined on an individual basis and communicated at the time an offer of admission is made.

### Electrical and Computer Engineering

Admission will be granted to applicants with a bachelor's degree in science or engineering or its equivalent, or to those with work experience in a technology environment, whose academic and professional records suggest the likelihood of success in a demanding graduate program in the electrical or computer engineering disciplines. Furthermore, applicants should demonstrate aptitude in the subject matter of such bridge courses (undergraduate level) as EE 0213 and EE 0231, or begin their studies by registering for one or more of the bridge courses.

### Management of Technology

Admission will be granted to applicants with a Bachelor of Science degree in science or engineering, or the equivalent, or to applicants with extensive experience in a technology environment, whose academic and professional records suggest the likelihood of success in a demanding graduate program. Applicants will have completed one course in introductory probability and statistics, one course in computer programming that uses a high-level language and includes applications, and one course in financial accounting, or demonstrate aptitude in these subjects. Applicants who have not completed these courses and who are unable to demonstrate aptitude in these subjects must register for one or more of the bridge courses (undergraduate level) offered in these subjects early in their graduate studies.

### Mechanical Engineering

Admission will be granted to applicants with a bachelor's degree in science or engineering, or its equivalent, in the general area of mechanical engineering, or to those with work experience in a technology environment, whose academic and professional records suggest the likelihood of success in a demanding graduate program. Furthermore, applicants should demonstrate aptitude in the subject matter of engineering design, materials and thermodynamics, or begin their studies by registering for one or more bridge courses (undergraduate level) in these areas.

### Software Engineering

Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university (or the international equivalent) or demonstrate adequate experience as a professional software developer or programmer, whose academic and professional record-suggest the likelihood of success in a demanding graduate program. Applicants with an undergraduate degree in an area other than software engineering, computer science, or the equivalent, may need to take the following bridge courses to develop the required background for the program: SW 0402 and SW 0407.

## Application Materials

Applicants for admission in all programs must submit the following materials online for consideration:

1. A completed application for admission. Apply online (<https://ga.fairfield.edu/apply>).
2. A non-refundable \$60 application fee.
3. An official copy of transcripts from all previously attended colleges or universities sent to the Office of Graduate Admission.
4. Two recommendation letters (completed online), one of which must be from a current supervisor or professor, accompanied by the University online recommendation forms.
5. A professional resume.
6. A personal statement describing intent for studying in the program.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

## Mandatory Immunizations

Connecticut State law requires each full-time or matriculated student to provide proof of immunity or screening against measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chicken pox), meningitis and tuberculosis. Certain exemptions based on age and housing status apply. Matriculating students are defined as those enrolled in a degree seeking program. More detailed information and the required downloadable forms are available online (<https://www.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/student-life-and-services/health-and-wellness/health-center/immunization-requirements>). Completed forms should be submitted directly to the Student Health Center. Although this is not required to complete an application, you must provide proof of immunity/screening prior to course registration. Please consult your private health care provider to obtain the necessary immunizations. Questions may be directed to the Student Health Center: 203-254-4000 x2241 or email ([health@fairfield.edu](mailto:health@fairfield.edu)).

## International Students

International applicants must also provide a certificate of finances (evidence of adequate financial resources in U.S. dollars) and must submit their transcripts for course-by-course evaluations, completed by

an approved evaluator (found on our website (<https://www.fairfield.edu/graduate/admission/how-to-apply/international-students>)) of all academic records. All international students whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in the English language by taking either TOEFL, IELTS or PTE Academic exams. A TOEFL composite score of 550 for the paper test, 213 for the computer-based, or 80 on the internet based test is strongly recommended for admission to the graduate school.<sup>1</sup> Scores must be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service. An IELTS score of 6.5 or higher is strongly recommended for admission to the graduate school.<sup>2</sup> Scores must be sent directly from IELTS (<https://www.ielts.org>). A PTE Academic (<https://pearsonpte.com/the-test>) score of 53 is recommended. Fairfield University's ETS code is 3390. TOEFL, IELTS or PTE Academic testing may be waived for those international students who have earned an undergraduate or graduate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university. International applications and supporting credentials must be submitted at least three months prior to the intended start date.

<sup>1</sup> The Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions requires 84 on the internet based test, with a minimum score of 21 in reading and 23 in writing.

<sup>2</sup> For the IELTS, the Graduate School of Education and Allied Professions requires a score of 7.5 or higher for admission.

## Students with Disabilities

Fairfield University is committed to providing qualified students with disabilities an equal opportunity to access the benefits, rights, and privileges of its services, programs, and activities in an accessible setting. Furthermore, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Connecticut laws, the University provides reasonable accommodations to qualified students to reduce the impact of disabilities on academic functioning or upon other major life activities. It is important to note that the University will not alter the essential elements of its courses or programs.

If a student with a disability would like to be considered for accommodation, they must identify themselves to Accessibility in the Academic and Career Development Center and complete the online registration process for accommodations. Instructions for how to complete the online registration process for accommodations are located on our website (<https://www.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/academics/resources/academic-and-career-development-center/accessibility/prospective-students-and-parents>). This process should be done prior to the start of the academic semester and is strictly voluntary. However, if a student with a disability chooses not to self-identify and provide the necessary documentation to Accessibility, accommodations need not be provided. All information concerning disabilities is confidential and will be shared only with a student's permission. For more information regarding accommodations and the registration process, please email ([accdc@fairfield.edu](mailto:accdc@fairfield.edu)), or call 203-254-4081.