FAQs – Fall 2015 Engineering Department Admission Options for Current COE Students

1. How do the current General College Requirements (GCR) and the Fall 2015 General College Requirements (GCR15) differ?

Differences between the current GCR and the GCR15 include:

- GCR15 requires 24 graded credits taken at UW-Madison.
- GCR15 requirements for Biomedical Engineering (BME), Chemical Engineering (CBE), and Engineering Physics (EP) are more specific than the other nine engineering majors.
- If Comm A is not completed as a graded course, then a liberal elective course of at least 3 credits must be taken for a grade.
- The GCR15 can be completed by most engineering students in the first two semesters on campus.

2. I am a first-year engineering student. Should I take advantage of the Fall 2015 General College Requirements (GCR15)?

For most current second semester students, the answer is yes. If students complete the GCR15, meet the GPA requirements set by a program of their choice, and apply for fall 2015 admission during spring 2015, they are guaranteed admission into that major.

There may be cases where a student’s choice of major, their non-graded credits, or initial math placement make the current GCR a better choice. If you have any questions, please contact your advisor.

3. I am a second-year engineering student. Should I take advantage of the Fall 2015 General College Requirements (GCR15)?

Engineering students applying for fall 2015 admission to an engineering major are guaranteed admission if they complete the GCR15 with at least the GPA minimum set by each engineering program.

Current students are subject to the current engineering regulations which allow them a maximum of 4 semesters to complete the current GCR. Therefore, fourth semester students must complete their general college requirements and apply to a major or transfer out of the College of Engineering.

4. How do my AP, IB, transfer credits count towards the GCR15?

Credits for courses not taken at UW-Madison may fulfill degree requirements. However, they do not count toward the core courses/core GPA as stated under GCR15.

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5. **What if I am uncertain about the engineering major? Should I still apply when I meet the requirements?**

First year students who are very uncertain about their choice of major may want to take more time to explore their educational options so they can make a considered decision about which major they wish to pursue. If you are certain about engineering, you should actively explore the various engineering majors. Choose the one that fits you best. One place to start is at: http://www.engr.wisc.edu/future/coe-future-undergrad-choosing-a-major.html.

Fourth semester students must complete their general college requirements and apply to a major or transfer out of the College of Engineering.

6. **I am a student in another UW-Madison School or College. Do the Fall 2015 General College Requirements (GCR15) apply to me?**

The fundamental requirements of the GCR15 apply to you and are specified in the “General College Requirements for Cross-Campus Students” document. See the Cross-Campus Students section at http://www.engr.wisc.edu/current/undergrad.html which includes additional requirements and considerations. However, guaranteed admission by meeting GPAs set by each program applies only to students in the College of Engineering. Cross-campus students are also subject to the 80 credit limit and two attempts at admission.

For fall 2015 admission, cross-campus students must be finishing the necessary core courses that are explained in the “General College Requirements for Cross-Campus Students” to be considered. The core courses are the same as those specified in the GCR15.

7. **What is the tuition for students admitted into the College of Engineering?**

Starting fall 2015, all engineering students will be assessed UW-Madison tuition and College of Engineering differential tuition, unless other tuition agreements have been established.

For information on tuition, see http://registrar.wisc.edu/tuition_&_fees.htm. Be sure to select “Undergraduate Engineering” within the Student Career menu.

8. **If I accept admission into a major, can I change majors in a later semester?**

Students who wish to change majors must apply for transfer, which at minimum involves a review of your academic record. Acceptance will be based on this review and availability in your desired major.