CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, PHD

for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering

Admission Requirements

Ideal candidates for advanced degrees in chemical engineering should have a background in chemistry and chemical engineering comparable to the training offered in the undergraduate chemical engineering curriculum at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Students whose prior training is deficient in one or more basic areas of chemistry or chemical engineering may be admitted with the understanding that extra coursework will be required to address their deficiencies. Graduate College admission requirements also apply.

All applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit TOEFL (http://www.toefl.org/) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (http://www.ielts.org/) scores as evidence of English proficiency. Minimum admission requirements (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/instructions/04c/) are set by the Graduate College.

Financial Aid

Students who remain in good standing and continue to make satisfactory academic progress are guaranteed a funded appointment that includes a full tuition waiver, a partial fee waiver, and a stipend for the duration of their studies in the program.

Graduate Teaching Experience

Experience in teaching is considered a vital part of the Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering PhD program. As part of their academic work, all students in the program are required to serve as a teaching assistant for at least three semesters.

In order to satisfy this requirement, all students whose native language is not English, regardless of US citizenship, must demonstrate spoken English language proficiency (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/taengprof.htm) by achieving a minimum score of 24 on the speaking subsection of the TOEFL iBT or 8 on the speaking subsection of the IELTS. For students who are unable to take the iBT or IELTS, a minimum score of 4CP is required on the EPI test (http://cte.illinois.edu/testing/oral_eng/epi_overview.html), offered on campus. All new teaching assistants are required to participate in the Graduate Academy for College Teaching (https://citl.illinois.edu/citl-101/teaching-learning/grad-academy-for-college-teaching/) conducted prior to the start of the semester.

Department Research

Please see chbe.illinois.edu/research (http://chbe.illinois.edu/research/).

Other Graduate Programs in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering

degrees:

- Chemical Engineering, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/chemical-engineering-ms/)
- Bioinformatics: Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/chemical-biomolecular-engineering/bioinformatics/)

The Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering offers graduate programs leading to degree of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering, as well as a Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering Concentration under the MS in Bioinformatics.

Opportunity exists for specializing in computational science and engineering via the Computational Science & Engineering (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/computational-science-engineering/) optional graduate concentration.

For additional details and requirements refer to the department's degree programs information (http://chbe.illinois.edu/graduate-program/) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/).

![Information listed in this catalog is current as of 12/2022](https://chbe.illinois.edu/graduate-program/)

### Chemical Engineering, PhD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum four of graduate-level courses in chemical engineering</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A coherent program of four additional graduate level courses</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHBE 599</td>
<td>Thesis Research (0 min applied toward degree)</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>96</strong></td>
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### Other Requirements

<table>
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<th>Requirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum Hours Overall Required Within the Unit:</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching experience is required</td>
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</table>

Requirements include satisfactory performance on qualifying and certification examinations, and a thesis.

Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD?: No

Qualifying Exam Required: Yes, the qualifying examination is a written test usually taken during the first year of study.

Preliminary Exam Required: Yes, the preliminary examination is an individual oral examination taken after the student has satisfied the course requirements.

Final Exam/Dissertation Deposit Required: Yes

Minimum GPA: 2.75

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1. Knowledge of the concepts and problem-solving skills in mathematics, science, and engineering that are relevant to identifying, formulating, and solving defined research problems in the field of chemical and biomolecular engineering.

2. Ability to clearly and persuasively communicate (orally and in writing) the motivation for a research project, relevant scientific and engineering concepts, approach, experimental data, data interpretation, conclusions drawn from the research, and the significance of the findings to both experts in the field and non-expert scientists and engineers.

3. Ability to develop and conduct appropriate experimentation or computer simulation, analyze and interpret data, and use engineering judgment to draw conclusions.

4. An ability to acquire and apply new knowledge as needed, using appropriate learning strategies.

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**Department Head:** Paul JA Kenis (kenis@illinois.edu)

**Director of Graduate Studies:** Mary L Kraft (mlkraft@illinois.edu)

**Overview of Admissions:** [https://chbe.illinois.edu/admissions/graduate](https://chbe.illinois.edu/admissions/graduate)

**Overview of Academics:** [https://chbe.illinois.edu/academics/graduate](https://chbe.illinois.edu/academics/graduate)

**Overview of Grad College Admissions & Requirements:** [https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply](https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply)

**Department Website:** [https://chbe.illinois.edu/](https://chbe.illinois.edu/)

**Department Directory:** [https://chbe.illinois.edu/directory/](https://chbe.illinois.edu/directory/)

**College Websites:** [https://las.illinois.edu/](https://las.illinois.edu/) and [https://grainger.illinois.edu/](https://grainger.illinois.edu/)

**Contact:** C (cknight4@illinois.edu) and J (jonniewknight4@illinois.edu)

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**Phone:** (217) 333-3640

**Email:** chbe-gradrecruiting@illinois.edu

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