The joint B.S.-M.S. program in AE combines two degrees: a B.S. in AE with a M.S. in AE. Current AE students enrolled in The Grainger College of Engineering with junior standing (normally at least 90 credit hours, including those in process, and at least one year of undergraduate coursework remaining) who maintain superior academic performance are eligible to apply for this program. The program is designed to broaden a student’s knowledge beyond that in the standard four-year curriculum. Students admitted to the program will receive both degrees once all requirements for both the B.S.-M.S. degree have been successfully completed.

Admission

For deadlines and procedures, consult the department web site. Current Grainger AE students can apply after they complete their junior-level courses, but before they start their senior year. Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.00 may apply for admission to the program. Admission decisions are based on overall academic performance, letters of reference, and statement of purpose. The GRE general test is not required.

Students provisionally admitted to the program:

- are assigned a graduate academic advisor when admitted.
- must maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 through completion of the B.S. component of the program in order to remain in the program.
- must maintain a technical GPA of 3.40 through completion of the B.S. component of the program.
- may register for graduate courses and earn graduate hour credits, with approval from their graduate academic advisor, when they have less than 12 credit hours remaining in their B.S. component.
- must earn at least 121 hours of undergraduate credit and satisfy all B.S. requirements of this program to be officially admitted to the Graduate College.

Upon successful completion of the B.S. component students:

- must apply and be officially admitted into the Graduate College.
- are assigned a graduate academic advisor when B.S. courses are completed.
- will be issued letters of admission from the Graduate College and the AE Department, at which time they will be considered graduate students and assessed graduate tuition the following semester.
- must satisfy the graduate student minimum residence requirement, which is 24 graduate credit hours.
- must continue to maintain a graduate GPA of 3.00 or better in order to remain in the combined program.

Withdrawal

Students may withdraw from the program at any time by notifying the AE Undergraduate Programs Office. Students who do not complete all 5-year B.S.-M.S. degree program requirements may request by petition to have graduate hours earned converted to undergraduate hours and applied toward a traditional B.S. in AE degree. Students reverting to a traditional B.S. degree program must complete 128 hours and satisfy all degree requirements. Graduate credit not used to fulfill the B.S. degree requirements will remain on the transcript and may, at some future point, be considered for transfer to another degree program.

*The 121-hour B.S. degree from the B.S.-M.S. program is not ABET accredited, but would be if the student withdrew from the M.S. component and completed the requirements of the traditional 128-hour B.S. program.

Course Requirements

B.S. Component (121 hours) 1

- Same required courses as the traditional B.S. degree with minimum hours required reduced from 128 to 121.
- The reduction of 7 credit hours includes:
  a. 4 hours in Free Electives in both AE curricula
  b. 3 hours in other non-AE Technical Electives
- Overall GPA of 3.40 must be maintained through completion of B.S. component of the program.
- Students can apply after they complete their junior-level courses, but before they start their senior year.
- Illinois undergraduate student minimum residence requirement must be satisfied.

At the graduate level, requirements are identical for both the M.S. Non-Thesis Track (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/ms-aero-engin/#degreerequirementstext) (32 additional hours of coursework) and the M.S. Thesis Track (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/ms-aero-engin/#degreerequirementstext) (32 additional hours of coursework).

1 If the student withdraws from the MS component they must revert to the traditional BS degree program and satisfy all degree requirements of the BS curriculum.