

# COMPUTER SCIENCE, BS-MCS

for the joint degree of Bachelor of Science Major in Computer Science and Master of Computer Science in Computer Science

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**department catalog page: Computer Science Catalog** (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/engineer/comp-sci>)  
**department website: <https://cs.illinois.edu>**  
**department faculty: Computer Science Faculty** (<https://cs.illinois.edu/people/faculty>)  
**overview of college admissions & requirements: Engineering Catalog** (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/engineer>)  
**college website: <https://engineering.illinois.edu/>**

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The 5-year program in Computer Science combines two degrees: a B.S. in Computer Science with an M.C.S. in Computer Science. This program is competitive and admission is based on overall academic performance, letters of recommendation, and statement of purpose.

## Admission

For deadlines and procedures, please consult the department website (<http://cs.illinois.edu/current-students/graduate-students/bs-mcs-5-year-program>). Current Illinois Computer Science students enrolled in the College of Engineering with a junior standing (must have at least one year left of their undergraduate study after admitted into the program) who maintain an excellent academic performance are eligible to apply for this program. Students admitted to this program will receive both degrees once all requirements for both degrees have been successfully completed. Transfer students entering the CS undergraduate program their junior year are also eligible to apply to this program.

Students provisionally admitted to the program:

- are assigned a graduate academic advisor.
- must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 through completion of the B.S. component of the program to remain in the program.
- may register for graduate courses and earn graduate credit hours, with approval from their graduate academic advisor, if they have 12 hours or less to complete in their FINAL semester of their undergraduate studies. Please note that students cannot transfer more than 12 credit hours of coursework over to their M.C.S. degree, which includes the shared coursework.
- must earn at least 120 hours of undergraduate credit, 9 hours of graduate credit (this is the "Breadth Requirement (<http://cs.illinois.edu/prospective-students/graduate-students/professional-masters-mcs/professional-masters-mcs-degree-requ>)"), and satisfy all B.S. requirements to be officially recommended for admission to the Graduate College.

Upon successful completion of the B.S. component (including grades of B- or better in the "Breadth Requirement (<http://cs.illinois.edu/prospective-students/graduate-students/professional-masters-mcs/professional-masters-mcs-degree-requ>)"), and an overall GPA of at least 3.0 GPA, students

- will be officially admitted into the Graduate College, with the application fee paid by the department.
- will be issued letter of admission from the Graduate College Admission Office and the Department of Computer Science, at which time they will be considered graduate students and assessed

graduate tuition the following semester. International students may be required to submit additional documentation at this time.

- must continue to maintain a graduate GPA of 3.0 or better in order to remain in the combined program.
- must complete all the remaining M.C.S. degree requirements within two semesters (fall-spring, spring-summer, or spring-fall). Please note that if you finish your B.S. requirements in less than four years, you will not be given extra time to complete the M.C.S. degree requirements. You will just finish this joint program in less than 5-years and be able to start working sooner!

## Withdrawal

Students who do not complete all 5-Year B.S.- M.C.S. degree program requirements may request by petition to have graduate hours earned, including the Breadth Requirement coursework, converted to undergraduate hours and applied toward a traditional B.S. in Computer Science degree. Students reverted back to the B.S. degree program must earn the minimum number of hours and satisfy all degree requirements of whichever version of the B.S. curriculum appropriate. 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.

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## Requirements

B.S. Component: 120 hours plus 3 "Breadth Requirement" courses for 9-12 graduate hours

- Same required courses as the traditional B.S. degree with the minimum hours required reduced to 120 hours.
- Must complete 3 out of the 4 "Breadth Requirement" courses: four different courses, each from a different area, from the following eight core areas with a grade of B- or higher.
- University undergraduate minimum residence requirement satisfied.
- Overall GPA of 3.0 or higher maintained through the completion of the B.S. component of the program.

M.C.S. Component: Minimum 20-23 additional coursework hours

- Program is identical to the traditional M.C.S. program with the 3 out 4 "Breadth Requirement (<http://cs.illinois.edu/prospective-students/graduate-students/professional-masters-mcs/professional-masters-mcs-degree-requ>)" courses satisfied while still classified as an undergraduate.
- Students who take the "Breadth Requirement (<http://cs.illinois.edu/prospective-students/graduate-students/professional-masters-mcs/professional-masters-mcs-degree-requ>)" courses for 3 credit hours instead of 4 will need to complete a minimum of 23 additional graduate level coursework hours.
- Students must satisfy the university's graduate student minimum residence requirement.
- Students must complete remaining M.C.S. degree requirements in two semesters (fall-spring, spring-summer, or spring-fall).
- Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 through completion of the M.C.S. component of the program.