

A woman with dark hair, wearing a white lab coat, blue safety goggles, and large hoop earrings, is working in a laboratory. She is holding a large, clear plastic bottle with a yellow label and a blue cap. The background shows laboratory equipment and shelves with various bottles.

**GRAINGER
ENGINEERING**

WIE

**WOMEN IN
ENGINEERING
PROGRAM**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Inclusion
That's the Power of I.

Women in Engineering Program

We believe in the power of inclusion to make us stronger. Our dedication to extending a spirit of openness, access and equity brings more people and perspectives to the table, for the benefit of all. That's the Power of I.

Women in Engineering (WIE) is a college-wide program dedicated to providing a welcoming and supportive environment for women students in Engineering. We help you innovate, collaborate, and succeed to make a difference in people's lives.

The community of women in Grainger Engineering is stronger than ever. Over the past four years, we have grown our community by 40%, which equals more than 1,500 undergraduate women engineers. It is an exciting time to be at Illinois.



We Innovate

At Illinois, we innovate new ideas, technologies, and processes every day. The resources on our campus allow for endless possibilities to do the impossible.

You'll have the opportunity to participate in activities like Team Tech and Senior Design projects. These opportunities allow you to work with a particular company to utilize the knowledge you've gained through coursework, research, and professional work to find an innovative and collaborative solution to a problem within the engineering industry.

We Collaborate

The University environment at Illinois fosters collaboration across disciplines. We work together to solve problems, discuss ideas, and find solutions. More than 2,000 projects are happening at any one time.

Collaboration is vital and women are integral to this process. From working with professors on bone tissue regeneration and 3D printing with conductive inks to building relationships with peers via activities like the water projects through Engineers Without Borders, women at Illinois are changing the world. It's through these group-based efforts that we will have an impact on society.

We Succeed

The knowledge and experience gained at Illinois leads to further research opportunities, continued higher education, and top industry job positions. On average, each Illinois Engineering graduate receives more than two job offers upon graduation.

Our women in engineering are leaders, problem-solvers, and teammates. They are answering the mysteries of the brain and consulting on ways to use safer energy in villages around the world. Just imagine where you'll be with your degree from Grainger Engineering.

We Offer Many Ways to Get Involved

One of our greatest features at Illinois is the wealth of options outside the classroom. And so many are focused on women in engineering! By participating in groups you're passionate about, you'll make lifelong friends, grow as a leader, and build an amazing resume.

- Alpha Omega Epsilon and Phi Sigma Rho*
- Society of Women Engineers
- Society of Women in Physics
- Women in Aerospace
- Women in Computer Science
- Women in Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Women in Mechanical Science
- Women in Nuclear Engineering

*Academic and social sororities for women in engineering

GFX Scholars

Form community with fellow first-year engineering students while exploring your interests and passions! Selected incoming first-year engineering students will be named GFX (Grainger First-Year Experience) Scholars. GFX has partnered with a variety of Undergraduate Programs including WIE to provide first-year experience courses to communities of students interested in a year-long program relating to one of their passions. This scholars program allows you, the student, to form community with other engineers during your first year on campus through the exploration of specific interests. This exploratory process enhances your first-year experience by expanding your skills while also building your college resume.

We Support You

Freshman Orientation

Move in early, meet with your department advisors, and build a network of friends and student mentors while becoming familiar with campus.

WIE Lead

Develop leadership skills during these monthly workshops and earn a leadership certificate.

Academic Advising

Receive 1:1 advising from WIE staff, who are knowledgeable about your specific courses and experiences.

Supported Study Halls

Attend study times for women engineers in our Center for Academic Resources in Engineering space to collaborate under the support of peer tutors.

Monthly Newsletters

Receive a monthly e-newsletter with upcoming professional and personal development events.

We Cover all the Majors

As an incoming freshman, you apply directly to your major of choice. This allows you to immediately begin coursework in your major and start building your academic community. If you have a strong interest in exploring different engineering majors in your first year, apply to Engineering Undeclared.

Grainger Engineering Majors

- Aerospace Engineering
- Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- Bioengineering
- Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electrical Engineering
- Engineering Mechanics
- Physics
- Industrial Engineering
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering
- Systems Engineering and Design

2,700+

**Women engineers in
The Grainger College
of Engineering**





We are Successful

“WIE Orientation gave me a head start I don’t think you’ll find anywhere else. I met so many of my best friends there. It was inspiring to meet like-minded women striving for success before classes began.”

– **Lara Flasch, Industrial Engineering**

“WIE not only helped me build my community, it enabled my involvement as a mentor and advocate for K-12 students. I’m excited to help increase the number of women in STEM in this way.”

– **Corly Leung, Computer Science**

“The support network at Illinois is outstanding. Resources in the WIE office, advising from deans and departments, my peers—there is always someone to help!” – **Elizabeth Sanders, Chemical Engineering**

“WIE is dedicated to my success after I leave Illinois. By hosting workshops on leadership skills like negotiation, collaboration, and resilience, WIE helped me land my dream job.”

– **Alexis Eickelschulte, Systems Engineering and Design**

“Being a Woman in Engineering at Illinois sets you up for success. From the community you build, to the resources available to you, the possibilities are endless!” – **Rebecca Ficht, Bioengineering**

“Every day I am inspired by the hard work, creativity, and love that my classmates put into their experience here. I’ve met people from all over the world that have not only inspired me to be the best person I can be, but have also inspired me to make the world the best place it can be.”

– **Rebecca Ventura, Civil and Environmental Engineering**

We Have the Numbers

You will be successful at Grainger Engineering due to your hard work. But we like to think our size and resources for an elite, well-rounded education play a part as well. Our excellence is as broad as it is deep. You will be among ambitious yet helpful peers, esteemed faculty, and knowledgeable advisors. You'll have access to unbelievable research opportunities and labs. And you'll be rewarded for your studies upon graduation. Your future starts here at Illinois.

#6 Overall ranking among undergraduate programs in the U.S.

#10 Overall ranking among graduate programs in the U.S.

15 Top-ranked undergraduate degree programs

400+ World-class faculty

100+ Engineering-based student organizations

50% Undergraduate participate in research

9 Multidisciplinary research centers

60+ Laboratories, research centers, and institutes

12 Engineering Departments

2,000+ Research projects each semester

27% Women headed to graduate school

2+ Job offers on average per student

62% Women employed upon graduation

\$86,150 Average BS starting salary

80,000 Alumni worldwide



Which Major is Right for You?

Your path to Grainger Engineering starts with connecting your passion and interests with the opportunities available in one of our 15 top-ranked major programs. Take our majors quiz to discover which programs are a good fit for you, gather the information you need to take the next step and apply.

Take Our Majors Quiz

go.grainger.illinois.edu/majors-quiz-wie







The Grainger College of Engineering

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Women in Engineering Program

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