Unleash THE POWER OF I
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
What is the Power of I?

It's the power of great minds at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, joining forces to confront new challenges with compassion, ingenuity, and determination. It's the power of visionaries who know how to turn big ideas into practical solutions that impact people's lives. And the Power of I is the power within you – to use your individual strengths and bravely step forward to make a difference in the world.

Unrivaled Strength Across Every Discipline

Grainger Engineering is unmatched in its size and resources to provide an elite education to every student. We are consistently ranked among the top engineering programs in the world, with a reputation for excellence in education and research in every field.

15 top-ranked undergraduate degree programs

#6 Overall Ranking Among Undergraduate Programs in the U.S.

95% of student secure first choice destination upon graduating
Make an Impact

As a Grainger Engineer, you’ll discover boundless opportunities to pursue your interests and gain the skills to lead the future of engineering and innovation in the discipline you choose. You will grow in an environment designed to help you succeed. You’ll make lifelong friends who will challenge you to strive for greater. You’ll build valuable connections with experts in your field. You’ll get involved in game-changing research projects in state-of-the-art labs and facilities. And you will open doors to any future you can imagine.

Join a Legacy of Excellence

The Grainger College of Engineering has a world-renowned reputation and a legacy of excellence across every discipline. Our faculty are experts in their respective fields, constantly innovating their teaching practices to enhance their skill set and improve student comprehension. Our students are leaders, companions, collaborators, and problem solvers. With great minds working between disciplines to solve big challenges every single day, you will find that our campus and college are filled with unique opportunities just waiting to be discovered.

Grainger Engineering First-year Experience (GFX)

Another way to start your collegiate career off on the right foot is to participate in the Grainger First-Year Experience (GFX). This unique program allows you as a freshman to engage in hands-on experiences focused on what you want to study during your time here. This includes courses, events, and sub-programs that build community and help you build a strong sense of engineering identity.

Choosing a Minor

You’re able to pursue minors within The Grainger College of Engineering or in other colleges at the University of Illinois. This includes a popular Computer Science option (which guarantees admission into the MCS/MCS-DS programs with a 3.2+ GPA), as well as the Hoef Technology & Management minor. This option is jointly offered with the Gies College of Business to conduct courses that work closely with corporate partners, so you gain needed skills to become an innovative leader in the fields of technology and business.

Undergraduate Research Opportunities

Robotic prosthetics. Renewable energy. Drone shipping. AR/VR enhancements. CRISPR technology. Flying to Mars. The research happening here at Illinois is world-changing, and we want you to be a part of it. And if conducting research alongside world-class faculty wasn’t exciting enough, most research opportunities for undergraduates are paid positions and can even count toward your requirements for graduating! Grainger Engineering’s emphasis on interdisciplinary research is what makes the University of Illinois one of the best research universities in the world. There are over 2,000 interdisciplinary research projects taking place each semester, in more than 60 different laboratories, research centers, and institutes.

Study Abroad

We know that gaining a global perspective is crucial to becoming a well-rounded engineer. Regardless of the demanding workload that most engineering disciplines require, the International Programs in Engineering Office (IPENG) helps Grainger students find the perfect experience outside of Champaign-Urbana. From the cathedrals of Europe to the coasts of Australia, international experiences can take you anywhere.

Senior Design Projects

As a senior you’ll get an unparalleled opportunity to work with a company on a specific project. You’ll be on a team that solves real world problems for corporate or not-for-profit clients. This provides open-ended problem-solving experiences, which requires working within time, budget, and design constraints. You’ll present progress and results to your company partners and be even more prepared to join the workforce upon graduating.

Graduate Prepared to Lead

After earning their degrees, Grainger graduates have gone on to achieve great success. Our students are hired by employers including Amazon, Apple, Boeing, Google, IBM, and Proctor & Gamble. Likewise, many of our students move on to continue their education at elite graduate programs all over the world. Whether you want to move to industry, graduate school, or entrepreneurship, Grainger Engineering will equip you with the tools and experience necessary to continue forward in your journey as an engineer.
Entrepreneurship & Design

Whether you want to start your own business or become an innovator in the workforce, you will have access to everything you need to achieve your goals.

According to the Pitchbook Universities Report, the University of Illinois is ranked 10th among national universities for undergraduate venture-backed start-ups. Inc. Magazine also ranked Illinois 13th among national universities graduating the most future CEOs of well-funded start-ups. Through such resources as the new Siebel Center for Design (SCD) and the EnterpriseWorks Incubator which has launched more than 200 startup companies, anyone with a compelling idea can receive assistance on how to build your business.

For an even stronger start, Grainger Engineering students can get a degree in entrepreneurship! The degree in Innovation, Leadership, and Engineering Entrepreneurship (ILEE) teaches students to better understand innovative processes involved in identifying the complex problems and creating engineering solutions that are necessary in today’s world.

You can apply to that program once on campus.

Cancer Scholars Program

Cancer Scholars provides a unique and interdisciplinary student learning experience. This new model for undergraduate education is motivated by societal challenges and incorporates real-world experiences. Aligned with students’ passions, this approach is designed to inspire better learning, provide opportunities for undergraduate students to work in a meaningful manner in an important area for society, and ultimately impact society with smart and innovative Illinois graduates providing solutions against cancer.

City Scholars Program

City Scholars leverages our nationally renowned engineering students to build Chicago’s tech pipeline in fields like software engineering, data science, trading, and analysis. Once accepted and placed with a company, City Scholars spend a semester living, working, and studying in Chicago. Students receive credit for a full course-load and are paid for their work. Companies get a first look at top students and a chance to train them throughout a 16-week semester, as well as traditional summer internships. Currently, City Scholars is open to students with at least Junior credit standing majoring in: Computer Science, CS+X, Computer Engineering, and Electrical Engineering.

Drive Innovation
Our people are the heart of Grainger Engineering. When students are asked why they chose Illinois, they often answer, “Because it felt like home.” That feeling is intentional. You aren’t a number here. You’re an engineer with a hard work ethic, a driving desire to solve problems, and a commitment to making a difference. And you’re surrounded by peers and educators who feel exactly the same.

Student Organizations
It’s easy to build your community by getting involved in one of the 100+ engineering-specific student organizations and groups. Our Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) provide hands-on engineering experiences, collaboration with peers, community outreach and networking opportunities, and leadership development. They give you the chance to explore your passions and make lifelong friends, improve your community and the world, while preparing for the future.

Some Examples Include:
- Participating in projects like CubeSAT, Hyperloop, Formula SAE, or Alma’s Talking Dogs where you partner with entities like NASA, Tesla, and Space X to improve current technology and build models for future use.
- Engineering Council (EC) can help you grow academically, professionally, and personally through leadership opportunities and interdisciplinary relationships by participating in activities like our popular Engineering Open House, student-led career fair, and recruitment activities.
- Develop your leadership skills in groups like Engineering Ambassadors and Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) where you can share your passion and knowledge of Grainger Engineering with younger students.
- Engineers Without Borders (EWB) enables you to explore the world while solving complex global issues.
- Theta Tau helps you develop your professional skills and network with potential future employers.
- Illini Baja SAE enhances your skillset by designing and building off-road vehicles for competition.
Experiences Designed to Help You Succeed

Our college has resources dedicated specifically to engineering students, meaning you’re getting personalized assistance for academic, personal, and professional questions that are unique to your field. You’ll receive educational support for courses that prepare you to be a highly-recruited engineer, guidance using our state-of-the-art facilities, professional development to help you land your dream job, and dedicated resources for entrepreneurship and design.

What This Looks Like

- Individualized advising available from the college, your department, and faculty mentors.
- Professional development from Engineering Career Services (ECS), which helps connect you with internships, co-ops, and full-time jobs through workshops and two career fairs each year that attract 450+ companies.
- Access to an engineering-specific embedded counselor for resources and assistance focused on mental health.
- Tutoring and academic support from the Center for Academic Resources in Engineering (CARE), a program in Grainger Engineering Library where you can get help from other engineering students and collaborate on class work in an environment rich with resources.
- Immersive experiences with The Grainger Engineering First-Year Experience (GFEX), a program that guides you through your transition to Illinois and allows you to work alongside your peers in Interactive hands-on electives.

Scholarships
Paying for college can be overwhelming but we do offer scholarships. The number available continues to grow. We offer approximately 500+ scholarships to newly admitted freshmen and award about 80% of newly admitted transfers students yearly. Plus, each year another 150+ scholarships are awarded to continuing students that apply for our college scholarships. Additionally, we provide resources on finding external scholarship opportunities available to engineering students.

Individualized Support
Each of the following Undergraduate Programs Office units is designed to enhance and maximize your collegiate experience as a Grainger Engineering student.

Center for Academic Resources in Engineering (CARE)
CARE enhances the learning experience for all undergraduate engineering students through academic support, enhancing collaborative learning opportunities, and providing positive influence through peer mentoring. There's no need to work alone in Grainger Engineering.

Engineering International Students Program (EISP)
EISP provides opportunities to enhance international and domestic student success through academic, professional, and leadership development. Advisors at the college and department levels help students plan their course selections, find and connect to resources, navigate college and department policies, and reach academic success.

Transfer Programs
Transfer Programs provides services and support for the admission, transition, and retention of off-campus transfer students, including administration of the Engineering Pathways Program.

Morrill Engineering Program (MEP)
MEP aims to empower African American, Hispanic, and Native American engineering students, support their success as scholars, and help them achieve excellence in engineering.

Women In Engineering (WIE)
WIE provides a supportive environment for students to develop community, connect to engineering opportunities, and find academic and future professional success.

Be Inspired
Preparing the Leaders of Tomorrow

Our world-class and passionate faculty, paired with our state-of-the-art facilities and innovative programs will help you grow from a new engineering student into a highly respected and recruited engineer. Grainger Engineering students graduate prepared to succeed. We have an entire professional staff focused on preparing you for a career in engineering. With Engineering Career Services (ECS), you have access to workshops, mock interviews, résumé reviews, two engineering-specific career fairs annually, and so much more. They work to help you find internships, co-ops, and full-time positions. Upon earning a bachelor’s degree, our students receive an average 2+ job offers and earn an average starting salary of $86,150 per year.

Career Advancement

From day one, you’ll have countless opportunities to network and connect with companies from around the world through professional seminars, career fairs, and more. Each year, ECS and student-run Engineering Council co-host two college-wide career fairs. More than 400 companies actively seek our engineering students for internships and professional positions through fairs and other events on campus. ECS also helps you find opportunities, prepare your application materials, and practice for interviews. You’re in good hands. 95% of Grainger Engineering students secure their first choice destination upon graduating! Another bonus? Our students are among the Top 5 most prepared for the workforce according to a Wall Street Journal survey of employers. Individual departments host their own specialized career fairs that are targeted specifically for their students. Additionally, there are numerous other on-campus engagement opportunities to interact with industry leaders and recruiters.

Undergraduate Program Rankings

Undergraduate engineering majors at The Grainger College of Engineering are ranked #6 overall in the U.S. News & World Report (published September, 2021).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Major</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Aerospace Engineering</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Agricultural and Biological Engineering</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Bioengineering</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Civil and Environmental Engineering</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Computer Engineering</td>
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<td>Computer Science</td>
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<td>Electrical Engineering</td>
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<td>Industrial Engineering</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Materials Science and Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering/Engineering Mechanics</td>
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U.S. News and World Report does not include the following majors in their rankings: Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering, Systems Engineering and Design. *Physics was last ranked in September 2015.

An Expansive Illini Network

In addition to industry recognition, The Grainger College of Engineering has more than 80,000 alumni around the world. These alumni have gone on to do incredible things. YouTube. Yelp. PayPal. Burj Khalifa. LED. Astronauts. Mars Rover Drivers. Cast 21. W. W. Grainger Inc. CEOs. Educators. Researchers. Creators. Innovators. The list goes on and on in technology, engineering, medicine, business, and entrepreneurship. We can’t wait to see what you will do.

95% of student secure first choice destination upon graduating
There is something for everyone at the University of Illinois. For me, I found an opportunity as part of the Illini Solar Car team to combine my interests in engineering, race cars, and sustainable technology into creating a solar powered electric car. When pursuing new opportunities don’t watch from the sidelines, dive in, go out of your comfort zone. At the same time as it’s important to dive deep into your interests, don’t forget to explore. College features a wide variety of people and unique experiences that are hard to find elsewhere. College is a time to learn, the best way to learn is by doing and experiencing new things. Find new opportunities, have fun and try not to stress too much in the process.

John Han
Electrical & Computer Engineering ’21

Voices of Grainger Engineering
There is nothing like being a Grainger Engineer. And there is no one better to talk about it than Grainger Engineers themselves. Every voice is unique. Every voice matters. Explore the powerful experiences, people and places that make this place special. Take time to explore the experiences of the students quoted here, the communities on campus, and advice for you as a new student.

go.grainger.illinois.edu/voices

Topics and Media include:
- Advice
- Blogs
- Communities
- Experiences
- People
- Places
- Podcast
- Q & A
- Video
Accept Your Offer or View Your Next Steps

Backed by a rich legacy of innovation and impact, it’s time to unleash your power—the Power of I. Manage your next steps to enrollment through your personalized Admitted Checklist in myIllini. National College Decision Day, the deadline for students to commit to a college, is May 1.

go.grainger.illinois.edu/accept

Register for a Virtual Event and Learn More

We are hosting virtual and in-person experiences this semester. We want you to get excited about our engineering culture and the major you were admitted to. These experiences include making connects with current students, academic advisors, faculty, deans, our resources offices, and more.

go.grainger.illinois.edu/visit

Contact Us

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