VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

contact us

VCU School of Engineering

VCU School of Engineering:

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Blair House
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Richmond, Virginia 23284-3051

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E-mail: gradschool@vcu.edu
Web: graduate.vcu.edu

about the city

Richmond is home to Fortune 500 companies and serves as headquarters to many national corporations including Hamilton Beach, Honeywell, Meadwestvaco and Altria. Local companies including CapTech, Royall and Company, Websmith Group, and Trane hire VCU engineers from a wide-range of engineering disciplines. These companies are just a few of the over 80 participants in VCU School of Engineering Career Fairs designed to connect VCU students with employers. The city's welcoming of new economy continues to attract successful businesses and offers a variety of employment opportunities. To learn more about Richmond, visit **egr.vcu.edu/about/city-richmond**.

graduate programs

Graduate Admissions:

Virginia Commonwealth University
Blair House
408 W. Franklin Street, 3rd floor
Richmond, Virginia 23284-2526
USA

Phone: (804) 828-6916
Fax: (804) 828-1829
E-mail: vcu-grad@vcu.edu
Web: graduate.admissions.vcu.edu

International Admissions:

Virginia Commonwealth University
Blair House
408 W. Franklin Street, 3rd floor
Richmond, Virginia 23284-2526
USA

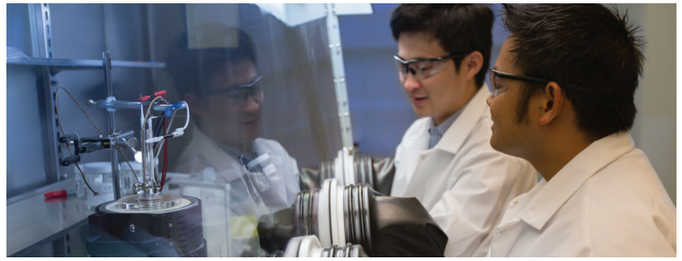
Phone: (804) 828-6016
Fax: (804) 828-1829
E-mail: vcuia@vcu.edu
Web: international.admissions.vcu.edu

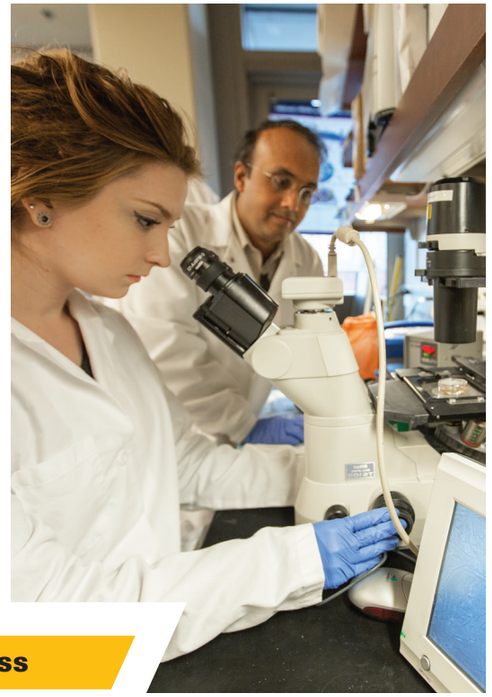
the school

The graduate program at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Engineering offers the opportunity to work on cutting-edge research in a unique interdisciplinary environment bridging undergraduate and career experiences. Among our faculty are internationally recognized experts in many areas. These researchers and their students are strategically connected to colleagues here and elsewhere who share our vision. We believe the future of research is in interdisciplinary collaboration.

the students

The graduate program welcomes students from around the world. The students in the M.S. and Ph.D. programs represent over twenty countries from six continents. This growing program is collegial and enjoys a familial atmosphere. VCU School of Engineering has an active graduate student association that hosts seminars, workshops and social events. Students have an opportunity participate in both intellectual and social exchanges.





the **engineering campus**

West Hall was built in 1998 and houses the departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Chemical and Life Science Engineering, as well as the administrative offices for the School. The Wright-Virginia Microelectronics Center, a unique laboratory featuring Class 1000 cleanroom space for the fabrication of microelectronic chips, biochips and micro electromechanical systems is located in West Hall along with the Student Welcome Center, which serves to meet the needs of prospective students and their families at the undergraduate level. The Dean's Suite, also found in West Hall, contains the offices of graduate studies, human resources and operations, foundation, marketing and communications, student recruitment and research among other entities.

In January 2008, the School opened East Hall, a 120,000 square foot facility housing 48 research labs, 50 faculty offices, six classrooms and other student spaces, allowing for future growth of the School. Student services coordinates the School of Engineering tutoring center and assists students in administrative tasks such as change of major, ARAC appeals process and financial aid issues.

The Institute of Engineering and Medicine building (IEM) is the newest addition to the Engineering campus and at 25,000 square feet the structure is one of the largest configurable research spaces in the U.S. It provides a state-of-the-art collaborative research environment connecting multiple University programs, as well as by outside researchers on a fee for service basis. The IEM houses the Nanomaterials and Characterization Center (NCC). The NCC is a multi-user facility that has state-of-the-art analytical equipment for making precise measurements for nanomaterials characterization.

the **application process**

For U.S. citizens and permanent residents:
Applicants are required to use the online application found at **graduate.admissions.vcu.edu/apply**. The Graduate School requires a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 to be admitted into graduate study. Official transcripts, GRE scores, three reference letters, a personal statement, resume (optional), and the application fee must be submitted directly to the Office of Admissions in order for applications to be considered. Prospective students who have studied outside of the U.S. must provide an official WES or ECE external credential evaluation as a required part of the admissions process. A separate application, fee and complete set of official documentation must be submitted for each graduate program application.Unofficial credentials will not be accepted, even when submitting multiple applications.

For non-U.S. citizens and non-U.S. residents:
The admission process for international graduate students may be six to eight weeks, depending on how soon the applicant provides the necessary materials. All materials must be submitted to the Office of International Admissions including: the graduate application form, application fee, personal statement, academic documentation, proof of English proficiency, GRE score, three reference letters and financial certification. The recommended minimum TOEFL score for graduate admission to VCU is: paperbased: 600; Internet-based: 100 or IELTS score of 6.5 (academic band score). Prospective students who have studied outside of the U.S. must provide an official WES or ECE external credential evaluation as a required part of the admissions process. Detailed requirements and application forms can be found at **international.admissions.vcu.edu/apply**.

the **programs**

- **M.S. and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering**
- **M.S. in Computer and Information Systems Security**
  (joint degree with School of Business)
- **M.S. in Computer Science**
- **M.S. and Ph.D. in Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering**
- **M.S. and Ph.D. in Engineering with tracks in:**
  – Chemical and life science engineering
  – Computer science *(Ph.D. only)*
  – Electrical and computer engineering

the **degree requirements**

M.S. degree requirements
Students seeking the non-thesis M.S. degree are required to take a minimum of 30 semester credits of approved graduate courses. This includes concentration and track elective credits and directed research credits. Students can pursue thesis or non- thesis degree option. The student's advisor must review and approve all course work and research credits.

Ph.D. degree requirements
A minimum of 60 post B.S. degree credit hours, including research credits, is generally required for the doctor of philosophy degree in Biomedical Engineering and Engineering. A minimum of 68 post B.S. degree credit hours, including research credits, is generally required for the doctor of philosophy degree in Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering. This includes concentration and track elective credits and dissertation research credits. The student's advisor must approve all course work. Students entering the doctoral program in Biomedical Engineering and Engineering with a M.S. degree,, will require a minimum of 30 post M.S. degree credits: A minimum of 45 post M.S. degree credit hours, including research credits, is generally required for the doctor of philosophy degree in Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering

A minimum of three years of study, including research, is necessary to complete all requirements for the Ph.D. A period of residence of at least three consecutive semesters is required. Residency is defined as registration for at least nine credits per semester. A time limit of eight calendar years, beginning at the time of first registration, is placed on work to be credited toward the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

For more information about the requirements for the Graduate Engineering Program please visit **egr.vcu.edu/grad**.