



School of Civil & Environmental Engineering  
Cornell University  
Hollister Hall, Ithaca, New York 14853-3501

## MASTER OF ENGINEERING PROGRAM

Below is a brief summary of the Master of Engineering program in the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Cornell, including information on financial aid, the 5-semester M.Eng./MBA program, and sample proposal forms.

**GENERAL OVERVIEW:** The M.Eng. program at Cornell is a coursework and project-oriented degree program. Graduates of the program are exceptionally well-qualified for professional practice or for subsequent graduate study. The **civil** programs include majors in civil infrastructure systems, environmental engineering, environmental fluid mechanics & hydrology, environmental & water resource systems engineering, geotechnical engineering, structural engineering and transportation systems engineering. The program in **engineering management** focuses on integrating technical analysis with managerial decision making.

A minimum of 30 hours of graduate-level coursework is required in the M.Eng. program. A normal program allows time for 8 or 9 courses in addition to the project courses. Each major has curricular guidelines specific to the major, which includes coursework in supporting areas. (See proposal forms starting on page 6.)

**REQUIREMENTS:** Students from all fields of engineering and the physical and natural sciences are welcome to apply to the M.Eng. program. Admitted students without adequate preparation will likely be required to complete additional undergraduate coursework in addition to the regular graduate coursework. This preparatory work will not count towards the M.Eng. graduation requirements, and may also extend the length of the program. Such determinations will be communicated to the applicant at the time admission is offered.

**FINANCIAL AID:** Two types of financial aid are available through Cornell: merit-based and need-based. Merit-based aid includes tuition fellowships and part-time assistantships. Merit-based aid is awarded through both the College of Engineering and CEE's Master of Engineering Committees. Need-based aid is comprised of various loan programs, and is handled through the Graduate School's Fellowship and Financial Aid Office. The majority of M.Eng. students obtain funding from a variety of sources – typically a combination of loans, assistantships, fellowships, and grants (see "Sources of Support" on page 2). Part-time assistantships require a work commitment of eight hours per week. Awards are generally made in the Fall only for the academic year. Spring applicants can be considered for aid only if additional funding becomes available at that time, which is rare.

**EXAMS:** The **GRE** general test is required except for Cornell undergraduates. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for any applicant whose native language is not English unless s/he has studied full time for a minimum of two years at a university in a country where **both** the native language of instruction **and** the native language of the country is English. CEE requires a minimum score of 250 on the computer-based exam, or the following minimum scores in each separate area of the iBT Tips Exam: Writing = 20; Listening = 15, Reading = 20, and Speaking = 22. No exceptions will be granted. GRE and/or TOEFL exams should be taken no later than December for Fall admission for those requesting financial aid, and no later than February for all others.

**APPLICATIONS:** Applications for admission to the M.Eng. program may be filed at any time up to **April 1** for the following Fall semester, although it is very much to the applicant's advantage to file early in the December-February period. **Fall applications requesting merit-based financial aid, however, must be received no later than February 1.** No separate application form is required to apply for merit-based financial aid. Applications are accepted for Spring admission (October 15 deadline), but because of the timetable of the Geotechnical and Structural Engineering design projects, **applicants admitted in the Spring in those two concentrations will have to spend three semesters in the program instead of two** and delay participation on the design project until the Fall. International students who are accepted into the Fall program must provide proof of funding for their program by May 1 at the very latest, therefore applications coming in close to or at the April 1 deadline should already contain this financial proof, since it will be too late to be considered for either merit- or need-based aid at Cornell.

## NOTICE TO STUDENTS CONSIDERING SPRING ADMISSION IN CEE

**Health Insurance:** *In order for the University to obtain a competitive rate for student health insurance, the provider requires that all students registering in the Fall, which is the beginning of an academic year, enroll in and pay for one year of health insurance, even if the student does not register in the following Spring semester. The insurance period runs from mid-August of the enrollment year to mid-August of the following year, and remains in effect even if the student is no longer enrolled or on campus at any time during that period. Those starting a two-semester program in the Spring will have to pay for health insurance for three semesters: the first Spring semester in which they register, and then a full year's payment in the following Fall semester.*

**SOURCES OF SUPPORT:** Following is a brief listing of support available through the College of Engineering, the Master of Engineering Program, and the Graduate School's Fellowships and Financial Aid Office. Information on possible sources of non-Cornell support can be obtained on the web at: <http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu/?p=132>.

### **Merit-Based Financial Aid**

#### **Fellowships**

Eligibility: Accepted Applicants

Award: Tuition Fellowship

Deadline: February 1

Application: M.Eng. application form and all supporting application materials.

Awards are made based on academic accomplishment and are announced in early April.

#### **Assistantship Positions**

Eligibility: Accepted Applicants

Award: Stipend (\$10,000 in 2007-08) for an 8-hour/week work commitment. CEE assistantships also quite often include a partial tuition fellowship (\$17,300 in 2007-08) in addition to the stipend.

Deadline: February 1

Application: M.Eng. application form and all supporting application materials.

#### **Special M.Eng. Committee Awards**

Eligibility: Accepted M.Eng. applicants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Award: The award amounts vary each year, depending on the number of students selected, however most range between \$2,000 and \$4,000.

Application: Usually available on the College of Engineering's Office of Research and Graduate Studies (ORS) website: <http://www.engineering.cornell.edu/student-services/orgspe/index.cfm>

### **Need-Based Financial Aid**

Eligibility: U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents; international students with U.S. co-signers

Loan Award: Varies

Need-based aid for graduate students comes primarily from several federally- or privately-funded loan programs. Students typically apply for need-based aid after formal admission to the program. Please see the website for the Graduate School's Fellowships and Financial Aid Office: <http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu/index.php?p=131>

In order for the Graduate School's financial aid officers to process any requests for information relating to your loan applications, a few key documents must be on file. These documents should be submitted as soon as you (and perhaps your parents) process Income Tax forms, but no later than May 15 for the following Fall semester for timely processing. All questions relating to need-based financial aid should be directed to the Graduate Financial Aid Office (607-255-5821).

## **Other Sources of Support**

Unfortunately, since only limited merit-based financial aid is available in the M.Eng. program, not all qualified applicants can be offered support, nor does anyone admitted to the M.Eng. program receive “full” aid. You are, therefore, urged to conduct an early and aggressive search for outside sources of funding. Ideally, you should begin your search for outside support in early fall of the year before you intend to begin your program. If you wish to be considered for certain fellowships, you will actually need to apply for them before you are accepted into the M.Eng. program because of several September, October and November fellowship application deadlines.

***PLEASE NOTE:*** *The amount, time, and source of financial award information provided in this brochure are subject to change.*

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**For general questions** with respect to your M.Eng. application or academic information, you should contact the department you have applied to. For CEE that contact information is:

Graduate Program Coordinator  
School of Civil & Environ. Engng,  
219 Hollister Hall, Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York 14853-3501  
phone: (607) 255-7560; fax: (607) 255-9004; e-mail: [cee\\_grad@cornell.edu](mailto:cee_grad@cornell.edu)

### **For information/application with respect to need-based financial aid:**

Graduate Financial Aid Office  
190 Caldwell Hall, Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York 14853-2602  
phone: (607) 255-5821; fax: (607) 255-1816; e-mail: [gfao@cornell.edu](mailto:gfao@cornell.edu)

### **To contact the main administrative offices of the Master of Engineering Program:**

Office of Research and Graduate Studies  
222 Carpenter Hall, Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York 14853-2201  
phone: (607) 255-7413; fax: (607) 255-9606; e-mail: [enr\\_grad-mailbox@cornell.edu](mailto:enr_grad-mailbox@cornell.edu)

## 5 SEMESTER M.ENG./MBA PROGRAM

### What is it?

A joint venture between the College of Engineering and the Johnson Graduate School of Management (JGSM) which allows students to acquire a Master of Engineering degree and an MBA degree in 5 semesters (usually based on Fall admission to the M.Eng. program). The dual-degree program consists of 75 credit hours, 30 of which comprise the regular two-semester M.Eng. program. For those admitted to the MBA program, the JGSM allows some/all of these M.Eng. credits to be transferred to the MBA program, usually resulting in saving one semester's time over taking the M.Eng. and MBA degree programs separately.

### What are the requirements?

Applicants must have already earned a baccalaureate degree in engineering, applied science, or equivalent from Cornell or elsewhere, and be accepted for admission or presently enrolled in the M.Eng. program. **The two programs require separate application forms and review processes, and materials submitted to one program are not available to the other.** The JGSM places great emphasis on relevant work experience, and this will be taken into consideration when evaluating applications. All requirements of the Master of Engineering program are to be completed. No credit toward the M.Eng. degree is allowed for coursework done outside Cornell. All requirements of the Master of Business Administration curriculum are to be completed. Coursework done outside Cornell normally will not be credited toward the MBA degree.

### **IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS PROGRAM, DO THE FOLLOWING (the following dates are based on Fall enrollment):**

1. If you have been admitted to, or are attending the M.Eng. program, formally apply to the Johnson Graduate School of Management early in the first semester of your M.Eng. program. You must fill out their application form and pay their application fee. You should also notify your M.Eng. advisor of your intention to do the MBA program so s/he can take this into consideration when planning your M.Eng. program schedule.
2. If you have not already done so, apply to take the GMAT, which is required by JGSM, using January of your M.Eng. year as your last possible test date. Have the scores directed to JGSM

If you are admitted to the JGSM, your Master of Engineering degree shall be awarded when all requirements of that degree are completed (usually after 2 semesters), and the Master of Business Administration degree shall be awarded when all requirements of that degree are completed (usually after 3 more semesters). The two degrees cannot be awarded simultaneously.