

*MSIE FAQs (admission & study)*¹

ADMISSION

1. *What are the admission requirements for the MSIE degree?*
Please visit the [MSIE webpage](#).
2. *Are there any concentrations or options within the MSIE program?*
The MSIE degree has no concentrations or options.
3. *What type of financial support does the department provide to master's students?*
Our department provides *no* financial support or tuition waiver to master's students.
4. *How can I estimate the cost of obtaining a master's degree?*
Please check the USF Admissions webpage for estimated costs of attendance.
5. *My background is not in engineering or mathematics/statistics. Can I still apply for the MSIE degree?*
The MSIE degree requires a bachelor's in engineering or mathematics/statistics.
6. *Can the department evaluate my chances of getting admitted before I submit an official application?*
The department will only evaluate *official* applications submitted through the USF Admissions Office.
7. *Can the department make an exception and waive the GRE requirement for me?*
No; GRE is mandatory for all applicants. Also, it cannot be substituted by another test (e.g., GMAT).
8. *I haven't taken my GRE/TOEFL exam yet. Does your department offer conditional admission?*
No. All elements of the application package are required at the time of application.
9. *What factors are taken into consideration when making an admission decision?*
Admission is based on several factors: rank of undergraduate school, GPA, GRE, grades in selected courses (math, probability/statistics, programming, and other), overall competitiveness, and other factors.
10. *How do I apply? How can I check the status of my application?*
Please visit the USF Admissions webpage.
11. *Where should I send all supporting documents (e.g., resume, recommendation letters, etc.)?*
Documents should be attached to your online application. The USF Admissions Office might require you to mail certain documents to them. Please do not email/mail your documents to the IMSE department.
12. *I have questions about supporting documents (e.g., resume, recommendations, etc.). Who should I contact?*
The USF Admissions office handles all application paperwork, please contact them. The IMSE department only reviews complete applications.
13. *Am I required to send documents proving my financial status at the time of application?*
Financial documents are not required at the time of application but have to be sent after admission. For details, please contact the USF Admissions Office.

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STUDY

1. *What are the requirements for the MSIE degree?*

Please visit the [MSIE webpage](#).

2. *Where can I learn the basics of the academic process at USF?*

You need to attend an orientation for new graduate students, organized by the USF Office of Graduate Studies (OGS). You will learn about policies and procedures, university services, resources, and other aspects. Please also check the webpage of the USF Office of International Students (OIS) for the minimum course enrollment and other requirements for international students.

3. *What should my general strategy be as to what courses to take and when?*

Your course selection needs to be based on the degree requirements, your interests, and course availability. The MSIE degree requirements are based on two groups of courses: *core* (required) and *elective* courses. Core courses and most electives are offered once a year (some electives are offered less frequently). It is recommended that you take core courses as soon as possible to avoid delays in your graduation. Typically, in their first semester, students take one core course and two electives (some take two cores and one elective).

4. *Where can I check available course offerings?*

Check <https://usfweb.usf.edu/DSS/StaffScheduleSearch> (change related fields, as appropriate; also, change **status** to *open* and **status 2** to *active*).

5. *I have concerns that a particular course might be too difficult for me. Who should I talk to?*

Any course related questions should be directed to the course instructor.

6. *Does the IMSE department place any holds on registration?*

No. If you have a hold, it is from either the International Services, Student Health Services, Office of Graduate Studies, or Controller's Office. Please contact the appropriate office to have your hold removed.

7. *What are the minimum course grade requirements for MSIE students?*

MSIE students must maintain an overall minimum GPA of 3.0. No grade of C- or below will be accepted toward the degree (for INTO pathway courses, only grades of B and higher will be accepted). No undergraduate courses (level 4000 and below) will count toward the MSIE degree.

8. *How long will it take me to obtain the MSIE degree?*

It depends on how quickly you can satisfy the degree requirements. On average, it takes one and a half years.
