Thank you for your inquiry regarding the PhD Program for the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Cornell University.

The deadline for application submission for our PhD program for the Fall 2019 semester will be January 3, 2018 (with financial aid) or March 1, 2019 (with no financial aid).

Before you choose to submit an application to Cornell CBE, please be aware that Cornell CBE does not have Spring admission in our MS and PhD graduate programs.

### Submitting Your Application Online:

The School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering does not mail out hard copy applications upon request to prospective applicants – we require you to submit your application online. If you are interested in applying online, please go to [https://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/apply/apply-now/](https://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/apply/apply-now/). The application fee is non-refundable and you will be required to pay with a major credit card.

You will be able to submit all of your materials online – Statement of Purpose, Transcripts, Resume/CV. Your Recommenders will also be able to submit your letters online. Please do not submit any hard copy materials of any kind by mail or courier. Hard copy materials will not be processed or considered as part of the review process.

### What are the Minimum Requirements for all CBE PhD Program applicants?

Our admission decisions are not based only on GPA and standardized test scores; we look at a wide variety of factors. If you have slightly lower scores or GPA but have other strengths that mitigate the weaknesses in the above quantitative metrics, we would still encourage you apply.

Please be aware that the submission of GRE scores is only valid for the admissions cycle you are specifically applying for. Cornell does not carry over scores from previous years. If you had made arrangements with ETS to have scores submitted for a previous year, you will have to have them submitted again for the admissions cycle you are specifically applying for and pay the full cost.

### International Applicants:

**TOEFL:** Minimum scores required for admission to Cornell are as follows:

- 15 – Listening
- 20 – Reading
- 22 – Speaking
- 20 – Writing

- You must meet the minimum score requirements in each of the four areas of the TOEFL in order to be considered for admission to Cornell.

- You need to use the Institutional Code of 2098 for Cornell University (no Departmental Code is necessary) for Electrical and Computer Engineering to have ETS submit your TOEFL scores to Cornell.

Please plan accordingly, as ETS is known to be slow about submitting test scores.
IELTS: Minimum IELTS Score required for admission is an Overall Band Score of 7.0 or higher.

- When you register for the exam, you may select up to five institutions to which you would like to have your Test Report Form (TRF) mailed. You may also submit a request to your test center to have additional TRFs sent to institutions not originally listed on your registration form.

- Have IELTS send your Test Report Form (either by postal mail, or electronically) to Cornell University -- Graduate Admissions. Please do not e-mail a scanned copy, or mail a photocopy of your TRF.

For questions regarding IELTS Score submission, please contact the Cornell Graduate School directly at gradadmissions@cornell.edu.

DISCLAIMER:
Be aware, that if you are an international applicant and your TOEFL or IELTS scores do not meet our minimum requirements, you will not be considered for admission. These minimum scores are determined by the Cornell Graduate School and all graduate fields at Cornell must adhere to them.

Go to the link below to review the policy.
https://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/prepare/english-language-proficiency-requirement/

There will be no exceptions considered if you are not able to meet the minimum English Language Proficiency Requirements.

EXCEPTIONS:
The TOEFL/IELTS requirement may be waived only if the applicant meets at least one of these criteria:

- If the applicant is a native citizen of the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand or Canada (except Quebec). Applicants, who are citizens of India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Hong Kong, or Singapore, are not exempt from the TOEFL requirement.

- If the applicant has studied in a full-time status for at least two (2) academic years within the last five (5) years in the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, or New Zealand, or with English language instruction in Canada or South Africa. You must submit a transcript that shows you have attended college in one of these approved locations.

Official TOEFL Scores are only considered valid by CBE for up to two (2) years from the original test date when the exam was taken.

Please be aware that the submission of TOEFL scores is only valid for the admissions cycle you are specifically applying for. Cornell does not carry over scores from previous years. If you had made arrangements with ETS to have scores submitted for a previous year, you will have to have them submitted again for the admissions cycle you are specifically applying for and pay the full cost.
Items to be Submitted for your CBE PhD Application:

You will need to submit the following items by the application deadline date in order for your application to be considered complete and to receive consideration for full funding.

Everyone:
- Application: Apply online: https://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/apply/apply-now/
- Statement of Purpose: Expected length is roughly 1 – 1 ½ pages.
- GRE scores from ETS (must be officially submitted to Cornell University by ETS); photocopies are not acceptable). GRE scores are only valid for up to five (5) years from the original test date.
- Transcript(s): One transcript from each university you have attended. Transcript(s) can be uploaded into your online application; do not submit hard copy versions. See below for suggestions on how to submit your transcript(s) online.
- Recommendation Letters: two recommendations required, three preferred

International Students
- TOEFL scores from ETS if applicable (must be officially submitted to Cornell University by ETS; photocopies are not acceptable). TOEFL scores are **ONLY** valid for up to two (2) years from the original test date.
- IELTS Scores if applicable. Have IELTS send your Test Report Form (either by postal mail, or electronically) to Cornell University -- Graduate Admissions. Please do not e-mail a scanned copy, or mail a photocopy of your TRF.

Optional
- Resume or CV: optional, not required. If you would like to include this in your online application, there is a specific field available for you to upload it as an attachment.

DO NOT SUBMIT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:
Copies of papers, projects, CD-roms, books, etc... These types of items submitted in hard copy will not be processed or considered as part of the admissions review process.

If you have publications that you feel are relevant, post them online and include a link to them in your Statement of Purpose.

Uploading of Scanned Transcripts into CollegeNet (online application system)
1. Scan at the lowest dpi document (use under 200 dpi whenever possible).
2. Ensure that the institution name and other identifying marks are not missed during the scanning process and that it is clearly legible and can print on 8 ½" x 11" size paper.
3. Save your document as a PDF file.
4. Scanning in gray scale or black and white may produce the best results.
5. If the scanned file is too large then make a photocopy first, then scan the photocopy.
6. If you upload a copy of your transcript into your online application, you are **NOT** required to submit an official hard copy version of it in order for your application to be considered complete. You will only need to submit an official hard copy transcript if you are made an offer of admission and you choose to accept it.

No Hard Copy Items Should be Submitted by Mail:
- All application materials should be submitted ONLINE.
- Do NOT mail any hard copy application materials to accompany your application.

**GRE Scores Submission from ETS:**

- **GREs** - You need to use the **Institutional Code of 2098** for Cornell University (no Departmental Code is necessary) for Electrical and Computer Engineering to have ETS submit your GRE scores to Cornell. Note that we do not require the Subjective portion of the exam.

Please plan accordingly, as ETS is known to be slow about submitting test scores.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

Please visit [https://gradschool.cornell.edu/academics/fields-of-study/subject/chemical-engineering/chemical-engineering-phd-ithaca/](https://gradschool.cornell.edu/academics/fields-of-study/subject/chemical-engineering/chemical-engineering-phd-ithaca/) regarding the application process for additional information on how to apply to CBE.

**CBE Research Web Pages:**

If you would like to learn more about our research areas please go to: [https://www.cheme.cornell.edu/cbe/research/research-areas](https://www.cheme.cornell.edu/cbe/research/research-areas)

CBE Research Areas:
- Biomolecular Engineering
- Complex Fluids and Polymers
- Computational Science and Engineering
- Nanoscale Electronics, Photonics and Materials Processing
- Sustainable Energy Systems

**Requesting an Application Fee Waiver:**

In cases of extreme financial need, the Cornell Graduate School will consider a request for a fee waiver. A letter of request for a waiver and documentation of need, such as a letter from a college financial aid office, must accompany the application. You will need to contact the Cornell Graduate School directly at gradadmissions@cornell.edu to request permission for a fee waiver.

**Checking Your Application Status**

You can log into your application account via the Cornell online system and check the status of your PhD application materials [https://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/apply/apply-now/](https://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/apply/apply-now/). This system will be updated regularly as your items are received.

**Additional Information:**

For additional information or any other admissions related questions, please contact: Bianca Burns, cbe-gfa@cornell.edu

Thank you once again for your interest in our PhD program.