

Engineering Pathways at Austin College

Students interested in engineering are urged to contact the engineering advisor, David Whelan, during their first semester at Austin College.

Austin College has formal agreements for pursuing dual degrees in engineering with two universities -- what are sometimes called 3/2 or 4/2 programs. The agreements are with Washington University in St. Louis and Columbia University in New York City. The programs differ in their details, but share the following characteristics:

- Students attend Austin College for either three or four years, then attend an engineering school for two to three years. At the end of the this time they receive a B.A. from Austin College and a bachelor's degree in engineering from the cooperating institution.
- Before leaving Austin College, students need to have arranged to satisfy all Austin College degree requirements by the end of a 3/2 program. Students in 4/2 programs first graduate from Austin College, then attend engineering school.
- Each engineering school also has its own prerequisites that students must satisfy to be accepted into their engineering program. At Washington University and Columbia University these requirements include the following:
 - Three semesters of calculus, including vector calculus
 - A course in differential equations
 - One year of calculus-based physics
 - One semester of general chemistry
 - One semester of computer programming
 - One semester of English composition
 - Five-six additional courses in non-technical courses
 - An overall GPA of B+ (3.30 for Columbia and 3.25 for Washington) or better is required with a higher GPA usually needed for the better financial aid packages

Columbia University has additional prerequisites that must be met to enter specific engineering degree programs. Students should check with the pre-engineering advisor and consult the Columbia University website for additional information.

Austin College students can also make their own arrangements to enter engineering programs at other universities, including Texas A&M University, UT Dallas, and UT Austin, by transferring after three years at AC. If the proper arrangements are made before leaving AC, these students can be granted an Austin College degree at the time they finish with the engineering program.

Austin College has an agreement with University of Texas at Dallas Materials Science offering a B.A from Austin College and a M.S from UTD. Students must be enrolled in either the Physics or the Engineering Physics major at Austin College to be considered, and their overall GPA must be a 3.50 or above.

Additionally, students routinely apply for Masters and PhD level programs in engineering at the completion of the time at Austin College. In recent years, students have gone on to programs at University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at Dallas, Texas Tech, University of Houston, and the University of Oklahoma.