Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Aerospace Engineering

The PhD in aerospace engineering emphasizes original research and provides students with a strong background for employment by academic institutions, government laboratories and industrial research laboratories with a focus on aerospace engineering. The program stresses a sound foundation in technical fundamentals, communication and professionalism. To this end, a broad-based curriculum is offered in design, system dynamics and control; fluid mechanics and aerodynamics; mechanics and dynamics of solids and structures; transport phenomena; thermodynamics; and energy. Modern computational and laboratory facilities are available to support timely research investigations.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

All students pursuing the PhD are required to pass both a qualifying and a comprehensive examination administered by the program committee. In addition, the following are required:

coursework directly related to the research area (18)  
mathematics (9)  
graduate courses outside the major research area (9)  
MAE 792 Research MAE 799 Dissertation credit hours (12)
Students in the doctoral program who have not completed an MS degree previously will be allowed to apply for a Master of Science in Passing after successfully completing the comprehensive exams.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any field, from an accredited U.S. or international institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.25 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.25 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GRE scores
4. personal statement
5. resume or curriculum vitae
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency via a minimum of score of 80 on the internet-based TOEFL.

Admission to the aerospace engineering doctoral program is highly competitive and preferred applicants have an undergraduate or MS degree in aerospace engineering or mechanical engineering. The admission process considers all aspects of the student's application. The typical successful applicant has at least a 3.25 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in engineering and science coursework in a bachelor's or master's degree program and has high GRE and TOEFL scores.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

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Contact Information

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Admission Deadlines