Admissions Information

Application forms are available from:
UT Office of Undergraduate Admissions
320 Student Services Building
Knoxville, TN 37996-0230
Phone: 865-974-2184
Online: admissions.utk.edu/undergraduate
A Message from the Department Head

We appreciate your interest in the Department of Nuclear Engineering (NE). Founded in 1957, the department is one of the oldest and most prestigious nuclear engineering programs in the country. Our undergraduate program is one of the largest in the nation based on total student enrollment and has been continuously accredited by the ABET Engineering Accreditation Program. Our graduate program is ranked in the top five in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

If you find neutrons, alphas, betas and gammas fascinating, and have a desire to improve the quality of life, then nuclear engineering may be the right course of study for you.

For more information about our program, please visit our web site (www.engr.utk.edu/nuclear) or send an e-mail request to utne@utk.edu. If you plan to visit our campus, please call 865-974-2525 to arrange a personal tour. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Dr. J. Wesley Hines, Charles P. Postelle Distinguished Professor in Nuclear Engineering and NE Department Head

What is Nuclear Engineering?

Nuclear engineering is a discipline that focuses on the application of subatomic processes for the benefit of society.

The Department of Nuclear Engineering at UT offers BS, MS, and PhD degrees in two major areas of concentration—traditional nuclear engineering and radiological engineering:

- Traditional nuclear engineering involves reactor system analysis, design and operation, including maintenance and reliability; fissile material safety; radiation shielding; nuclear security; and instrumentation and controls.
- Radiological engineering involves the design and safe utilization of radiation and radioisotopes in industry and medicine.

Practical applications of nuclear engineering include:
- Nuclear fuels and materials performance
- Reactor physics and design
- Reliability and maintainability
- Reactor safety and thermal-hydraulics
- Space radiation protection
- Radiation detection and safeguards
- Nuclear criticality safety
- Health physics
- Medical physics
- Nuclear security
- Instrumentation and controls

Nuclear engineers are among the highest paid engineers in the nation. A partial list of prospective employers includes AREVA; ALTRAN; Bechtel Power; Bettis/Knolls Atomic Power Laboratories; DCP Midstream; Dominion Power; Duke Energy; Entergy; General Electric; hospitals; National Laboratories such as Los Alamos National Laboratory, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Savannah River National Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and Argonne National Laboratory; NASA; Navarro Research & Engineering; Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; Tennessee Valley Authority; and Westinghouse.

Academic Advantages

The majority of UT freshman engineering students are automatically enrolled in the innovative Engage Engineering Fundamentals Program. Here you will learn basic engineering concepts and teamwork skills through a series of hands-on projects and activities. [http://ef.engr.utk.edu/efd/]

The Office of Professional Practice offers opportunities for you to gain hands-on experience in business and industry through paid positions and internships. [www.coop.utk.edu]

The College of Engineering also participates in the University Honors Program, which is designed to give academically outstanding students a unique educational experience consisting of special courses, seminars, mentoring, and research projects. [honors.utk.edu]

Financial Support

The HOPE Scholarship Program provides financial support to qualified high school students from Tennessee who wish to attend an in-state university. [www.collegepaystn.com]

The NE department offers a generous undergraduate scholarship program. [www.engr.utk.edu/nuclear]

The college and the university also offer a number of scholarship opportunities. [www.engr.utk.edu/coe/undergraduate/scholarships.html]

The college provides special scholarships and support programs to minority students:
- The Diversity Engineering Scholarship Program (DESP) [www.engr.utk.edu/desp]
- The Office of Engineering Diversity Programs (EDP) [www.engr.utk.edu/edp]
- The Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (TLSAMP) [www.engr.utk.edu/tlsamp]