



Academic Affairs

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You wanted to be admitted to General Engineering (GE), but instead were admitted to University Studies (US)... is it possible to transfer to Engineering? YES. Let me start by saying congratulations. It is no small task to be admitted to the university. While you may be disappointed the original offer wasn't for a spot in General Engineering, that's no indication that you can't successfully transfer to Engineering after a semester or two at Tech, and complete a Bachelor's degree in Engineering. Many students make this switch from US to GE — approximately 100-150 each year.

The process of changing majors from University Studies (US) to Engineering is direct. To enter GE, the major all freshmen in Engineering are admitted to, a series of courses must be completed, as follows:

CHEM 1035/1045(General Chemistry) ENGL 1105(Freshman English)
MATH 1114(Linear Algebra) & MATH 1205(Calculus I) ENGE 1024(Engineering Exploration)

Many of these classes will be available for a US student to take in his/her first semester, with the exception being ENGE 1024. ENGE 1024 is restricted to engineering students during the fall semester (meaning only a student admitted as a freshman to the College of Engineering may register for the course.) Enrollment in ENGE 1024 in a spring semester depends on seat availability, but US students (or students in any other major) desiring to enter ENGE 1024 may request to add this course during the spring semester by adding their names to a waiting list (available on-line in January at www.enge.vt.edu). Students might also consider transferring in credit for this course, either the summer before entering Tech, or enrolling at a local community college during their first semester at Tech; transfer credit for this course must be coordinated through the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs office at the address above.

Once the classes listed above are completed and the student has an overall GPA of 2.0* or higher, a Change of Major form (<http://www.eng.vt.edu/forms>) should be submitted. There are no further "hoops" or conditions: once the courses above are completed at a 2.0* or better overall, the student **will** be admitted to GE.

The majority of US students seeking to enter GE are able to make this switch at the end of their freshman year (after spring semester is completed), without "falling behind" in the curriculum. The US student will typically be taking more core curriculum courses in their freshman year than the freshman admitted directly to engineering, but core curriculum courses still meet degree requirements.

To be able to begin the sophomore year in the desired degree-granting engineering major (the intended field of study, not GE), a student may wish to enroll in the summer session following his/her freshman year to take the 2nd Engineering Exploration class (the typical spring semester course for freshmen GE students).

My office works collaboratively with the US office, and I can assure you their academic advisors are very familiar with the requirements to enter engineering, and as such can certainly advise you as you make this transition to an engineering major at Tech. You will meet with US advisors during orientation in July, and at that time will be able to address any concerns with class schedules, degree completion, etc. For questions regarding the information in this letter please contact US at university.studies@vt.edu or 540-231-8440.

Sincerely,

Christi L. Boone, Coordinator
Academic Support Services

*grade in ENGE 1024 must be "C-" or better, even if overall is 2.0

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