PhD in Computer Science

Minimum Admission Requirements

Applications are considered on an individual basis by the Graduate Admissions Committee. A complete set of transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work is required before an applicant is considered. In addition to the application requirements of the Office of Admissions and the policies set by the Graduate College, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

- **Prior Degrees** Computer science or computer engineering. Outstanding candidates from other related fields will also be considered. Outstanding candidates holding a bachelor’s degree in computer science can be considered for admission to the direct PhD program.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.50/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate study.
- **Tests Required** GRE General scores are recommended for all applicants and required for financial aid applicants and all applicants with degrees from outside the U.S. A minimum of 300 GREV+GREQ score (with a minimum of 140+ GREV). All international students are required to submit Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), IELTS (International English Language Testing System), or PTE-Academic scores as well.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - TOEFL 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Internet-based); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (New Paper-Based—after August 2018); 570 (Institutional Testing Paper-Based—prior to August 2018) , OR,
  - IELTS 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, OR,
  - PTE-Academic 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required.
- **Personal Statement** Required.
- **Deadlines** The application deadline is the same as the Graduate College deadline; the deadline for applicants who want to be considered for funding (http://grad.uic.edu/deadlines) can be found on the Graduate College website. Departmental financial aid decisions (Fellowship/TA/RA) are made starting in early February.
- **Examinations**
  - Departmental Qualifying Examination: Required; written.
  - Preliminary Examination: Required; oral.
- **Dissertation** Required. Candidates must earn CS 599 credit of at least 48 hours beyond a master’s degree and at least 72 hours beyond a bachelor’s degree.

Support

The department offers guarantees of multiple-year teaching and/or research assistantships each year to highly qualified, new PhD students. These assistantships will provide a stipend of at least $18,756 per academic year, plus tuition and fee waivers.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements: