

Conditions for admission to graduate programs

D.E.S.S. Master's degree Doctorate

1. DIPLÔME D'ÉTUDES SUPÉRIEURES SPÉCIALISÉES

1.1 Graduates of the École Polytechnique who have obtained a bachelor's degree in engineering or students possessing a degree deemed by the École Polytechnique to be equivalent to such a degree may apply for the Diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées in a given discipline.

1.2 Applicants who have obtained their first university degree in the sciences and whose training is deemed by the École Polytechnique to be sufficient may also apply for the Diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées.

1.3 Applicants for the Diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées must also have obtained a cumulative grade point average of least 2.50 (4-point system) in undergraduate programs, or the equivalent approved by the École. An applicant may be exempted from this rule by submitting in support of his application proof of his ability to engage in studies at the master's level, e.g. relevant professional experience or studies completed after the undergraduate degree.

2. MASTER'S DEGREE

2.1 Applicants who have obtained an undergraduate engineering degree or a degree deemed to be equivalent and applicants possessing an undergraduate degree in a relevant field, bearing in mind the master's program contemplated, are eligible subject to the specific conditions stipulated in each program.

2.2 Applicants for the master's degree must have a very good academic record and have obtained a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 (4-point system) in undergraduate programs, or the equivalent approved by the École.

An applicant may be exempted from this rule by submitting in support of his application proof of his ability to engage in studies at the master's level, e.g. relevant professional experience or studies completed after the undergraduate degree.

2.3 Simply satisfying the general admission requirements indicated in sections 2.1 and 2.2 does not mean that an applicant will be admitted automatically to a given program. Moreover, each program may stipulate specific requirements and conditions for admission, as the case may be.

2.4 Exceptionally, an applicant from the École Polytechnique who has completed 105 course credits and obtained an average of at least 3 may be eligible for admission to the master's program.

For more information, please refer to the integrated bachelor's-master's degree form available from the registrar's office or on the Web site of the Bureau des affaires académiques.

3. DOCTORATE

3.1 Graduates of the École Polytechnique possessing an undergraduate engineering degree or a master's degree and all candidates whose training is deemed by the École Polytechnique to be equivalent may be admitted to a doctoral program in a given discipline.

3.2 An outstanding academic record does not guarantee admission to the doctoral program. The applicant must obtain the support of a professor who agrees to supervise his work.

A candidate applying for admission to a doctoral program on the basis of an undergraduate engineering degree or the equivalent must have obtained an overall average of at least 3.2/4.0 (or the equivalent approved by the École Polytechnique) in the academic program leading to the undergraduate engineering degree or the equivalent.

In some instances, specific requirements or constraints may be imposed, e.g. complementary courses, a foundation course, admission to a research-centred master's program, and so on.

3.3 Following the submission of a very good academic record and upon the recommendation of the research director and the director of the department, a student registered in a master's program at the École Polytechnique who has completed a minimum of nine course credits in his master's program may be admitted to a doctoral program without submitting the thesis required to obtain the master's degree.

When a student enters the doctoral program without submitting a master's thesis, the lapse of time between initial registration for the doctoral program and completion of the comprehensive examination must not exceed 16 months (four sessions).

If the student has not satisfied the necessary conditions following the comprehensive examination, he may ask to be readmitted to the master's program. In this instance, the director of the department will propose to the Bureau des affaires académiques the conditions subject to which the student may be admitted to a master's program. The student must then satisfy the conditions for obtaining a master's degree.

3.4 Exceptionally, following the submission of an excellent academic record and upon the recommendation of the research director and the departmental graduate studies committee, an applicant who does not possess an undergraduate engineering degree but who possesses an undergraduate degree or a degree deemed to be equivalent in a field relevant to the doctoral program contemplated may be admitted to the doctoral program subject to the specific conditions applicable to the program to which the applicant is admitted.

3.5 A candidate admitted to the doctoral program pursuant to section 3.4 or on the basis of his undergraduate engineering degree or a degree deemed to be equivalent who fails to meet the requirements following the comprehensive examination or who decides to no longer pursue doctoral studies may be admitted to a master's program. In this instance, the departmental graduate studies committee will propose to the Bureau des affaires académiques the conditions subject to which the student may be admitted to a master's program. The student must then satisfy the conditions for obtaining a master's degree.

3.6 A student who has successfully completed the doctoral courses in his study plan, the course work for the doctoral program and the comprehensive examination may, on the recommendation of the research director and the director of the department, obtain a master's degree if he so requests and submits to the satisfaction of the research director a report summarizing all of the research conducted in conjunction with his studies.

Jointly supervised thesis

A student in a doctoral program who wishes to register jointly at the École Polytechnique and a French university must obtain the consent of both universities, which must sign an agreement to this effect.

The agreement must satisfy the conditions stipulated in the “Programme-cadre et procédures pour la signature d’un accord de cotutelle de thèse de doctorat” available from the Bureau des affaires académiques.

To obtain additional information, please contact:

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The provisions found herein will be interpreted in favour of the École Polytechnique de Montréal.

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