

COMPUTER SCIENCE (PH.D.)

Admissions

A student entering doctoral studies in computer science should have suitable preparation in mathematics and computer science, and a degree in computer science or the equivalent subject from an accredited college or university. In addition, ideal candidates for admission should have some previous exposure to research and development, and demonstrate through their application materials promise for success in research and teaching.

Required application materials include the following:

- Statement of interest
- CV/resume
- Official transcripts for prior undergraduate and graduate degrees
- GRE general test scores
- Copies of recent publications
- Three letters of recommendation
- Demonstrated English proficiency for non-U.S. or native English-speaker applicants (as per standing GSAS policy)

The application review process is carried out by a Faculty Review Committee, which reviews all applications for admission to the program and makes recommendations on admission to the GSAS director of admissions. While the committee is highly selective in its recommendations, it engages in holistic applicant review to achieve that goal. This includes a review of traditional "objective" measures such as GRE, GPA, and TOEFL/IELTS scores and a careful and systematic review of all submitted materials that reveal cognitive and/or affective characteristics of applicants, including their statement of interest, resume, recommendation letters, and any recent publications.

Objective admissions criteria include GRE quantitative scores of 160 or better (82nd percentile) and verbal scores of 150 or better (48th percentile). Competitive applicants requiring demonstrated English proficiency must have a minimum combined TOEFL score of 79 or a minimum overall IELTS band score of 6. The minimum required GPA is 3.5 (out of 4.0) for applicants with an M.S. in computer science or a closely related field, or 3.0 (out of 4.0) for applicants with a B.S. in computer science or a related field plus at least two years of work experience. Upon completion of an initial screening of the entire applicant pool, the committee may interview (remotely unless the applicant is already in the New York City area) applicants who are being seriously considered for a recommendation of admission.

Finally and importantly, admission recommendations take into account this entire broad base of material presented by applicants, and the program actively recruits applicants from members of communities typically underrepresented in STEM fields (e.g., women and minorities), as well as welcoming applicants across diverse religious, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds.