Accelerated Status

Exceptionally promising UCI undergraduate Engineering students may, during their junior, senior, or fifth year, petition for streamlined admission into a graduate program within The Henry Samueli School of Engineering.

Eligibility Requirements:
- Must be in their junior, senior, or 5th year of undergraduate study.
- Must hold a cumulative grade point average of 3.5+ OR be in the Campuswide Honors Program.
- Must have completed one quarter of 199 Individual Research within Engineering OR one Engineering graduate course numbered 200-289.

How to Petition:
Students are required to submit an Accelerated Status Petition Form, as well as the Faculty Advisor Recommendation Form and Letter (in a signed, sealed envelope) to the Graduate Student Affairs Office (305 Rockwell Engineering Center). Students may join the Accelerated Status at any time during junior, senior, or 5th year. It is recommended to join as early as possible to take advantage of the opportunities provided. Students are strongly encouraged to apply no later than January 15th of the year they wish to begin graduate school.

What are the advantage?
Accelerated Status assists students in their preparation for graduate study by offering a head start on possible thesis research or coursework, as well as by allowing students to create an advisor/advisee relationship early.

Students who are Accelerated Status either begin their research or take graduate coursework while completing their undergraduate work. Moreover, students offered admission under Accelerated Status may, upon matriculation into a UCI graduate program, petition to transfer up to 18 units of graduate-level course work completed in excess of requirements for the bachelor's degree. Moreover, these students are eligible for reimbursement of their UCI Engineering graduate application fee.

Accelerated Status students are also exempt from UCI's GRE requirement for graduate school admission. This exception applies only to current UCI undergraduate engineering students applying for admission to one of the terminal M.S. programs in UCI’s The Henry Samueli School of Engineering (students applying directly to the Ph.D. program will still need to complete the GRE requirement). Accelerated Status applicants are otherwise and in all other ways evaluated in the same manner as other applicants to the School's graduate programs.

Lastly, Accelerated Status students may apply for undergraduate research fellowship funding on a quarterly basis. This fellowship is for $1500 maximum per quarter for up to 3 quarters during his/her undergraduate career (they do not need to be consecutive quarters). There is a separate application form for this process. Please see http://www.eng.uci.edu/grad/services/accelerated for more information about this opportunity.

Important note about applying to graduate school:
Accelerated Status students will still need to go through the graduate application process during their last year as an undergraduate student. Completing the Accelerated Status Petition form does not mean that the student has applied for admission to the University.

***** Please note that “accelerated” does not mean that you are working on your bachelor’s degree and your graduate degree at the same time. You must wait until after you’ve been accepted and have matriculated to petition for any graduate units earned during your undergraduate studies to apply to your M.S. or Ph.D. degree. *****

***** Please note that if you apply and are accepted as an Accelerated Status student you are under no obligation to attend graduate school at UCI. *****

If you are interested in learning more about this option please schedule a meeting with a Graduate Counselor by calling 949-824-4334.
Petition for Accelerated Status

Instructions: Please return this form to the Graduate Student Affairs Office (305 Rockwell Engineering Center).

I. Personal Information
Name: ________________________________________________________________
Student ID #: _________________________________________________________
Email Address: _________________________________________________________
Phone Number: _________________________________________________________

II. Undergraduate Information
Undergraduate Major: ___________________________________________________
Current Year: ____________ Expected Graduation Quarter/Year: ____________
Cumulative GPA: ____________
At the point of turning in this petition I have taken (please mark all that apply):
   ______ 199 Individual Research with the following Engineering professor: ____________
   ______ at least one Engineering graduate course numbered 200-289 (and received a B or better)

III. Graduate Information
I am interested in beginning a UCI School of Engineering graduate program in (quarter/year): ____________
I am interested in the following program:  
   ☐ Biomedical Engineering  
   ☐ Chemical and Biochemical Engineering  
   ☐ Civil Engineering  
   ☐ Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
   ☐ Environmental Engineering School-wide Concentration  
   ☐ Materials and Manufacturing Technology School-wide Concentration  
   ☐ Materials Science and Engineering  
   ☐ Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering  
   ☐ Networked Systems

I would like to obtain a:  
   ☐ M.S. Only  
   ☐ Ph.D. (earning M.S. along the way)
IV. Short Answer Questions (Please attach a type-written sheet)

1) Please describe any research or internship experience you have had during undergrad school.

2) Please describe any other extracurricular activities you are involved in.

3) What motivating factors have led you to want to potentially pursue a graduate degree at UCI?

V. Faculty Advisor Form & Letter

Name of Faculty Advisor: ___________________________
(The faculty advisor needs to be someone who would consider supporting you as a graduate student if you are admitted into a M.S. or Ph.D. program at UCI. Please attach these materials in a signed, sealed envelope to your petition)

Please sign and date this petition:

___________________________________________________________________________  __________
Student                                                Date

Graduate Student Affairs Staff Use Only (Please date and initial)

___________________________________________________________________________  __________
Associate Dean Signature                                Date

Undergraduate GPA BEGIN: __________
Date entered Accelerated Status: __________
Date applied to Graduate School: __________
Undergraduate GPA END: __________
Accelerated Status Petition: Faculty Advisor Recommendation Form

Accelerated Status allows students to form a potential advisor/advisee relationship before entering graduate school. The student’s faculty advisor will mentor the student throughout their remaining time in undergraduate school, as well as be an advocate and potential advisor for the student throughout his/her graduate work.

To be filled in by the student and given to the faculty advisor

Name: ________________________________________________________________
Student ID #: _________________________________________________________
Email Address: _________________________________________________________
I am interested in beginning a UCI School of Engineering graduate program in (quarter/year): _________________
I am interested in the following program:

☐ Biomedical Engineering
☐ Chemical and Biochemical Engineering
☐ Civil and Environmental Engineering
☐ Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
☐ Environmental Engineering
☐ Materials Engineering and Manufacturing Technology
☐ Materials Science and Engineering
☐ Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
☐ Networked Systems

I would like to obtain a:  

☐ M.S. Only  
☐ Ph.D. (earning M.S. along the way)

To be filled in by the faculty advisor:

Name: ________________________________________________________________
Department: __________________________________________________________
Email Address: _________________________________________________________
I have known this student for _______________________ quarters.
The capacity in which I have known this student is ____________________________.
I am open to the possibility of being this student’s faculty advisor during his/her graduate study.
_____ Yes   _____ No

Recommendation Letter Details
Please attach a letter detailing your relationship with and impressions of this student and his/her potential for success in graduate study. Please mention, specifically, any undergraduate research this student has completed that could potentially become M.S. or Ph.D. thesis research.

Please place this form, as well as the recommendation letter, in a signed, sealed envelope and return it to the student for submission with the Petition for Accelerated Status. Thank you for your input!
Accelerated Status Process

Before Petitioning

Take a 200 level graduate course

OR

Take units of 199

Junior Year or early Senior Year

Fill out the Petition for Accelerated Status and submit it, with the faculty recommendation form, to the Graduate Student Affairs Office.

(Please note that having Accelerated Status is not a guarantee of admission to graduate school at UCI)

(If approved)

You have the option of taking up to 18 units of graduate level study during this time.

(Please note that this is not required, but is an opportunity IF you have room in your schedule during the completion of your undergraduate degree.

By January 15th of your Senior Year

Apply for graduate school admission by filling out the online application and submitting the following materials:
- 3 letters of recommendation
- Official undergraduate transcript
- Statement of Purpose
- Personal History Statement
- GRE (If applying to Ph.D. program directly)

(If admitted)

Fill out your statement of intent to register (SIR) indicating whether or not you will be attending UCI in the fall.

Finish your B.S. from UCI

Begin Graduate School at UCI

Submit a General Petition to the Graduate Student Affairs Office, requesting to transfer any 200 level courses you took during undergraduate school into your graduate transcript.

RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

You can apply for undergraduate research funding while you are an Accelerated Status student. Submit the separate application form, with the proposal and faculty letter of recommendation, to the Graduate Student Affairs Office.

Receive reimbursement for your UCI graduate application fee.