

Announcement

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Portland State University
February 19, 2009

Selective admission starting Fall 2009

For many years, the PSU Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) has been increasing its commitment to excellence by raising the academic standards of our incoming students. Students apply to our professional program, either Civil Engineering or Environmental Engineering, after completing 2 years of engineering coursework. We raised our admission standards from a minimum GPA of 2.0 to 2.33. In previous years we had accepted only a passing grade in the Freshman and Sophomore classes. We now require a minimum grade of C. Any course taken with a grade of C- or lower has to be repeated.

During the last 2 years CEE has had unprecedented growth in undergraduate enrollment (see Figure 1). The reasons for this growth are (1) a national interest in Civil Engineering and (2) our new BS degree program in Environmental Engineering which was first approved for the 2007-2008 academic year.

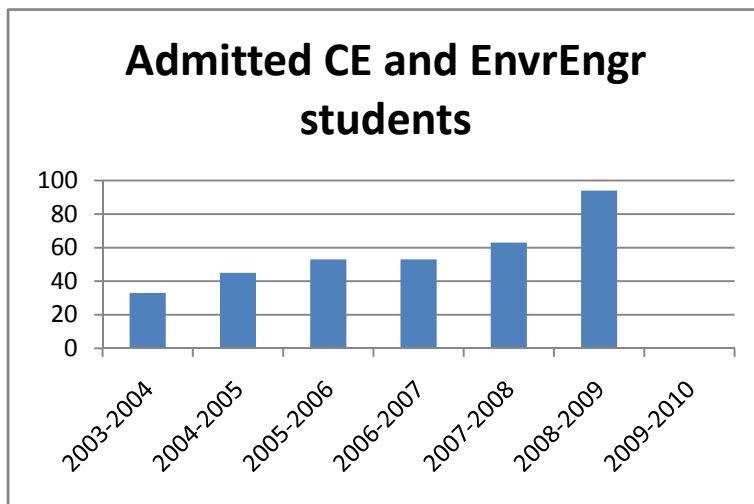


Figure 1. Growth in admitted CEE students from 2003 to present.

In order to strive for excellence in our undergraduate program, we will be implementing selective admission by reducing the number of admitted students to our program for the 2009-2010 academic year.

To ensure the highest quality of our program based on available resources, selective admission will follow these new guidelines in CEE:

- The number of applicants to the program will be limited for Fall, Winter and Spring admission.
- There will be a firm deadline date for applicants for Fall term: April 15 (this is changed from June 15). Notices of admittance will be made by May 15. Admission deadlines will be September 15 (prior deadline was November 1) and December 15 (prior deadline was February 1) for Winter and Spring term admissions, respectively.
- Students will be ranked according to their GPA in select courses in their undergraduate program. The average GPA of the following courses would be used in the weighting: MATH 251, 252, 261, CHEM 221, PH 211, EAS 211. PSU and other University grades may be weighted differently than community college grades at the discretion of the admission committee.