FAQ: Graduate Admissions

1. Where can I go to learn more about the program?

General information regarding the program, current research activities, faculty members, and their research interests is accessible through the internet at: http://mining.mst.edu/.

2. What are the Admissions Requirements?

Admission is normally awarded to those students who are ranked in the upper third of their baccalaureate graduating class or who have performed successfully at the graduate level. For international applicants, an undergraduate GPA equivalent of 70% is required. For domestic students a 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) is required. To be admitted to the program, a GRE Quantitative (Q) score of at least 148, and Analytical Writing Score (AW) of at least 3.5 is required. For international applicants, a minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper), 230 (computer) or 88 (IBT) is required. Note for the TOEFL: if the student has an MS degree from a US institution or has been studying in the US more than one year, applicants are not required to submit a TOEFL score. For further information go to the Admissions website at: http://www.mst.edu/?admissions

3. What do I need to submit to the Missouri S&T Admissions Office?

The following eight items must be submitted for the application to be complete and ready for consideration:

a. Application form
b. Application fee (currently $50. Note that current Missouri S&T students do not need to submit this fee)
c. GRE scores (this is required of ALL students) (minimum score required for program entrance is Q >148; AW>3.5)
d. TOEFL scores – the minimum score required for departmental entrance is 550 (paper), 230 (computer), or 88 (IBT). Note for the TOEFL: if the student has an MS degree from a US institution or has been studying in the US more than one year, they are not required to submit a TOEFL score.
e. Official transcripts (above high school) covering all credits to date (minimum of 3.0/4.0 or 70% or better required by program for admission).
f. 3 letters of recommendation
g. Statement of purpose discussing career goals and interests, as well as general background information.

4. What are the Admissions Deadlines?

All credentials must be received in the Admissions Office before the dates listed below in order to be considered for the respective term that is noted.

- Fall Semester - June 15
- Winter Semester - November 15
- Summer Session - April 1
How do I apply for financial support from the department?

It is assumed that all applicants to the department wish to receive financial support to enable them to pursue their graduate studies. Therefore, there are no additional application forms that must be completed. Most of the financial support available for graduate students is associated with specific research projects and is dependent upon the availability of grants from individual faculty members. Please note that international students cannot be considered for a teaching assistantship the first semester they are on campus.

To assist students in obtaining financial support all approved applications are forwarded to the faculty members within the department. When the applicant receives a notification of admission, he or she will also receive a letter from the department indicating the availability of financial support. The applicant will receive one of three letters. If a faculty member has indicated an interest in supporting a student and accepting the student into his research group, an offer letter will be forwarded. This letter will confirm the research area, level of support and information on student fee payments. However, the competition for such funding is strong and not all students will receive confirmation of support prior to enrollment. Two other letters that are forwarded at the time of admission include an “offer letter” in which a faculty member has expressed an interest in accepting a student into his group, but which does not confirm the intent of the faculty to support the student. The third type of letter that an applicant may receive indicates no commitment of support or identification of an advisor. This letter is sent to students who meet or exceed the minimum requirements of the department but for which no faculty advisor or funding has been identified.

5. What is the process for being accepted into the Mining Engineering Program?

After all application materials have been received by the Missouri S&T Admissions Office, the file is forwarded to the department for evaluation. After the department receives the file, all materials within the file are examined to ensure that the minimum admission requirements have been met. If a student is accepted, a letter from the department will be sent to the applicant confirming admission. The file is then returned to the Admissions Office. Applicants will also be notified of funding, if available, at the time of acceptance. This process sometimes takes several weeks to complete, following receipt of the application.

6. What are the research topics of your faculty?

The faculty interests can be located on our website at: http://mining.mst.edu/facultyandstaff/facultydirectory.html.

7. Which faculty are accepting new graduate students?

Faculty members who are accepting new graduate students is a difficult question to answer since this depends on timing and number of proposals submitted by individual faculty members. To ensure that the highest fraction of admitted students receive funding for their research studies, application packages are circulated to all faculty members. While most funding decisions are made at the time of admission, active application packages (i.e., those students who have applied and been admitted per department and university requirements), are reviewed on a continuing basis up until the start of the semester for which the student has applied. This ensures that all applicants are given the greatest opportunity for selection for funding.
8. Will I have to take the GRE? What about TOEFL?

Yes the GRE is required for admission at Missouri S&T. The Verbal, Quantitative, and Analytical Writing portions of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) must be taken. International students must take the examination before admission, and have a Quantitative score of at least 148 and an Analytical Writing score of at least 3.5. National students must take the GRE before enrolling. The Program requires a minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper), 230 (computer) or 88 (IBT) from international applicants to be accepted to a graduate program.

9. Do I need to submit official GRE scores, transcripts, etc.?

All application materials submitted to the university must be official (i.e., official transcripts must be sent directly from the university to our Admissions Office; official GRE scores must be sent directly from ETS, etc.). If unofficial materials are submitted, the application can be reviewed, however, it is not possible for the student to enroll at Missouri S&T. The ETS code for our school is 6876.

10. I have some difficulty in providing my own financial support for my graduate study. Are there opportunities for me to receive some kind of financial aid, such as a research assistantship?

If you receive an admission letter with no commitment of financial support, your application is kept as an active application until the start of the semester for which you have applied. Your information will be reconsidered together with all new applications regularly. Therefore, there is the possibility that you will receive funding. If this occurs, you will receive an updated letter indicating this. However, some applicants make a decision to enroll at Missouri S&T with no commitment of support. If you decide to accept admission, please be aware that you will ultimately be responsible for your own financial support. For information regarding the cost of attendance, please refer to the projected costs for graduate students at: http://www.mst.edu/index.php?costs.

11. Are there other places I can go for additional information?

Additional information may be found at the following links:
- Faculty Directory: http://mining.mst.edu/facultyandstaff/facultydirectory.html
- Program Graduate Degree Programs and Options: http://mining.mst.edu/academicprograms/graddegree.html
- Program Research: http://mining.mst.edu/research/index.html

12. Where do I send my application package?

All application materials should be sent directly to our Admissions Office as follows:

Missouri University of Science and Technology
Graduate Admissions Office
G-2 Parker Hall, 300 W. 13th Street
Rolla, MO 65409
email address: graduate-admissions@mst.edu