Applying to the USF CSE Graduate Program

The applicant’s overall preparedness for the program, including Undergraduate GPA, test scores, and research experience, will be considered for admission. The GRE may be waived for MS-degree applicants with an undergraduate degree from an accredited U.S. university. The GRE is required for all Ph.D. applicants. TOEFL and GRE scores are required for all international students.

Information on Graduate Programs

The Department offers the degrees of M.S. in Computer Science, M.S. in Computer Engineering, and M.S. in Information Technology, and the Ph.D. degree in Computer Science and Engineering. Our degrees prepare students for careers in both academia and industry. They are well placed in research labs, private industry, and educational institutions both in the United States and abroad. The CSE department is committed to promoting diversity in our students, faculty, and staff. Presently, the percentage of women in our graduate programs is 32%.

For more information about the CSE graduate program:

Funding for Graduate Study

We have generous fellowships, teaching assistantships (TA) and research assistantships (RA) available for all Ph.D. students and qualified M.S. students, which include a stipend, health insurance and tuition waiver.
The Department has 28 tenure-track faculty and is in the top sixth (rank 31) of Computer Science departments at US public universities, according to most recent Academic Analytics data based on Scholarly Research Index. The most recent US News & World Report ranked our Computer Engineering program in the top-50 among public universities. The graduate Masters of Science in Information Technology program was ranked 23rd for online IT programs by the 2018 US News & World Report. Our faculty includes 11 NSF CAREER award recipients, seven IEEE, four AAAS, four IAPR, three AIMBE Fellows, one National Academy of Inventor Fellows, and two Distinguished University Professors. Research expenditures for FY 17-18 totaled $2.6 million. USF CSE faculty members have 37 issued patents, own seven copyrights, and have executed eight license/option agreements between FY12-FY18.


The University of South Florida, established in 1956 and located in Tampa, is a high-impact global research university dedicated to student success. The USF System includes three separately accredited institutions: USF, USF St. Petersburg and USF Sarasota-Manatee. Serving more than 50,000 students, the USF System has an annual budget of $1.8 billion and an annual economic impact of $4.4 billion. USF ranks in the top 30 nationally for research expenditures among public universities, according to the National Science Foundation. In 2018, the Florida Board of Governors designated USF as a Preeminent State Research University, placing USF in the most elite category among the state’s 12 public universities. USF is a member of the American Athletic Conference.

Located on the west coast of Florida, the City of Tampa is the third most populous city in the state. Tampa’s economy is founded on a diverse base that includes tourism, agriculture, construction, finance, health care, government, technology, and the port of Tampa. Local attractions include the following: Busch Gardens, Florida Aquarium, Lowry Park Zoo, Museum of Science and Industry, Glazer Children’s Museum, Ybor Museum State Park and many more. Tampa is the ideal city for potential computer science and engineering students to live during their studies and possibly begin their careers following graduation.