

application

the combined plan program

2011–2012

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Locations

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

ATTN: COMBINED PLAN COORDINATORS
212 Hamilton Hall

VISITORS CENTER

213 Low Library

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID & EDUCATIONAL FINANCING

618 Alfred Lerner Hall

While actual locations are different for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Office of Financial Aid & Educational Financing, all correspondence may be directed to:

212 Hamilton Hall
1130 Amsterdam Avenue, MC 2807
New York, NY 10027

Phone numbers, e-mail and websites

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

212-854-2522
Fax: 212-854-3393
www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions
E-mail: combinedplan@columbia.edu

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID & EDUCATIONAL FINANCING

212-854-3711
Fax: 212-854-5353
www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/finaid
E-mail: cc-seas-aid@columbia.edu

To track the status of your application for admission, please visit:
www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions

You may access Columbia course bulletins and other publications at www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions

EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE

Rosedale Road
Princeton, NJ 08541
609-921-9000
www.ets.org

AMERICAN COLLEGE TESTING PROGRAM

Box 313
Iowa City, IA 52243
319-337-1270
www.act.org

TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Box 6151
Princeton, NJ 08541
609-771-7100
www.toefl.org

The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science

At Columbia's Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, students will find the tools of modern technology that will enable them to pursue diverse interests in our rapidly changing environment while reaping the benefits of a world-class teaching and research university.

The Combined Plan Program

The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science of Columbia University has affiliations with more than 100 liberal arts colleges and universities. The Combined Plan Program allows students to earn a B.A. in a liberal arts field from an affiliated institution and a B.S. in engineering from Columbia in five (3-2) or six (4-2) years.

Programs of Study

The following B.S. majors are available to Combined Plan students:

Applied Mathematics

Applied Physics

Biomedical Engineering

Chemical Engineering

Civil Engineering

Computer Engineering

Computer Science

Earth and Environmental Engineering

Electrical Engineering

Engineering and Management Systems

Engineering Mechanics

Financial Engineering (*by additional application only, to be filed your first year at Columbia*)

Industrial Engineering

Materials Science and Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Operations Research

Admission Requirements

The requirements for guaranteed admission at affiliated schools include but are not limited to:

- Applicants must complete three years of study at an affiliated liberal arts institution in the prescribed pre-engineering curriculum pertinent to the intended major. Please see the

“Pre-Combined Plan Curriculum Guide” at www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/engineering/combined for more information about pre-engineering curricular choices.

- Applicants must earn a cumulative **and** pre-engineering grade point average of 3.0 or better.

- Applicants must present favorable recommendations from the affiliated school's Combined Plan liaison, one science professor and one math professor.

- Applicants must complete all pre-Combined Plan foundational and major-specific courses by the end of the spring semester in which they are applying.

- Applicants must complete the distribution requirements of their college/university before entering Columbia.

- Applicants must complete their major requirements for their college/university before entering Columbia.

- **Note:** The pre-engineering GPA will be calculated on a 4.0 scale using the foundational and major-specific courses listed in the Pre-Combined Plan Curriculum Guide (not including the nontechnical requirements besides English composition and economics). A minimum 3.0 (B) cumulative grade point average (GPA) is required. In addition, the minimum GPA of all pre-engineering science and mathematics prerequisites must be 3.0 (B). If a course is retaken to improve one's performance, both grades will be used in calculating the pre-engineering GPA.

- **Note:** Any pre-Combined Plan foundational and major-specific courses taken at a non-affiliated college/university must be approved and granted credit by the applicant's affiliate school. All courses taken at nonaffiliate schools must be taken at an American-style college/university.

- **Note:** Engineering-specific courses (i.e., upper level courses within the Columbia Engineering major, rather than prerequisite courses) must be taken at Columbia.

- Applicants who have placed out of a foundational or major-specific requirement must either (a) take further coursework in that subject to fulfill the requirement or (b) submit AP, IB or other like credits, which will be evaluated on the same basis as for Columbia students. Please refer to the Engineering Bulletin for more placement information.

- Applicants must receive a letter grade for all Pre-Combined Plan required courses. Applicants may take a required course pass-fail only if the final grade is revealed to the Admissions Committee.

Important Dates and Deadlines

February 15

Admissions: Preferred application deadline for Combined Plan candidates. Application materials will be accepted until March 15.

March 1

Financial Aid: All financial aid forms due. All aid candidates must submit the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and the CSS (College Scholarship Service) Profile.

Mid-April

Admissions: Admissions and financial aid decisions released online.

May 15

Admissions: Deposit deadline for admitted Combined Plan students.

Late June

Admissions: Final college transcript due for incoming students.

Late August

Required New Student Orientation Program and academic year begin.

Combined Plan Application

We greatly appreciate your interest in Columbia and look forward to receiving your completed application.

GENERAL NOTES

- All materials sent by mail to the Columbia Admissions Office must be sent to: Office of Undergraduate Admissions
ATTN: COMBINED PLAN COORDINATORS
212 Hamilton Hall
1130 Amsterdam Avenue, MC 2807
New York, NY 10027
- You should print copies of any document you submit as part of your application.
- No paper applications are available, and the application cannot be downloaded; it must be completed online.
- To obtain a degree, students must spend two full years at Columbia regardless of the amount of transfer credit granted.
- Students must complete the B.S. degree at Columbia in four consecutive semesters.
- Students must select a specific engineering major when applying, and the option to change majors is not guaranteed after the application deadline.

• Applicants must notify the Admissions Committee of any changes in their spring course schedule. If the Admissions Committee has not been notified of schedule changes, an applicant's admission can be revoked.

• An applicant must complete both the home school's distribution requirements **and** major requirements before entering Columbia's Combined Plan. If an applicant has not completed the distribution and major requirements, he/she must include a written appeal at the time of application for the Admissions Committee to review that lists the requirements that need to be completed and how the applicant will do so.

• Admitted students will receive an Academic Credential Form from Columbia's Center for Student Advising that indicates which prerequisite courses, if any, the student must complete over the spring or summer prior to enrollment. Admission is ultimately contingent on the student's successful completion of these courses.

• After an application is electronically submitted, an automated e-mail will be sent immediately from our online application provider, confirming the submission. Every applicant will receive an e-mail from Columbia, officially acknowledging receipt of the application and providing a unique applicant ID number after February 15, 2012. (Columbia ID numbers begin with Coo...) Using the Columbia applicant ID, the applicant is required to track the status of the submitted application and the receipt of all required documents by using our online tracking system: www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/ applications. The system will be available after March 1, 2012.

Each applicant is responsible for the accurate completion and submission of the application and should periodically check this site to ensure that all required materials have been received and processed.

Please note that Columbia reserves the right to evaluate an application and render a final decision even if all pieces of the application have not been received.

TO APPLY

1. The Application for Combined Plan Admission Part 1 provides your simple autobiographical data and should be submitted by the preferred deadline of February 15. The application fee is \$80. This fee covers processing costs and can be neither refunded nor credited against later charges. **You must be sure to indicate which major you would like to pursue (choose only one).**

2. The Application for Combined Plan Admission Part 2 is your chance to tell us more

about yourself and should be submitted by the preferred deadline of February 15.

3. Either download the Combined Plan Liaison Recommendation or follow the directions for the forms to be completed and submitted online. Your liaison should submit the completed form by the preferred deadline of February 15.

4. Request from the registrar or other appropriate official at your current school (and at any other colleges or universities at which you have also been enrolled since completing secondary school) an official transcript showing all courses completed and grades received and have it mailed to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

- Your official transcript must list the courses in which you are enrolled during the spring of 2012.
- You must submit a transcript with a letter grade from every college in which they have enrolled in pre-Combined Plan required courses.
- You must receive a letter grade for all Pre-Combined Plan required courses. Applicants may take a required course pass-fail only if the final grade is revealed for the Admissions Committee.
- All Pre-Combined Plan required courses will be evaluated based on Columbia's academic policies, rules and regulations.

5. Request an official copy of all Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) Test scores through which you have been given credit. These scores may be included on your official transcript or on official school letterhead and should be provided to you in a sealed official envelope or mailed directly to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

6. Either download the Science and Math Instructor Recommendation forms or follow the directions for the forms to be completed and submitted online. The forms should be given to professors who know your work well and can speak to your ability to meet the rigorous academic demands at Columbia. Both forms should be submitted by the preferred deadline February 15.

7. Submit catalog descriptions of all past and current courses that are prerequisites for your intended engineering major at Columbia. Catalog pages or photocopies with the relevant courses circled are acceptable. Please do not send whole catalogs. Please gather all syllabi of your college and university courses, as they may be required to evaluate course equivalency by faculty advisers at Columbia.

Notification

You will be notified of the Admissions Committee's decision in mid-April. Please note that applicants applying for financial aid will receive their financial aid packages no earlier than mid-April. Foreign students applying for financial aid will receive their financial aid packages no earlier than May 1.

You must reply to the offer of admission by May 15, 2012. A nonrefundable deposit of \$500 will be requested at that time to secure your place in the class. This deposit will appear as a credit on your semester bill.

Admission to Columbia is contingent upon the receipt of a satisfactory final official transcript from your previous college or university.

Housing

Combined Plan students are guaranteed housing in their first year.

While Columbia will do its best to accommodate students' requests to live on campus after the first year, there is no guarantee that Combined Plan students will be offered a room on campus beyond the first year. Off-Campus Housing Assistance (OCHA) assists Columbia students and affiliates in their search for housing in non-Columbia owned buildings in the metropolitan area. OCHA maintains a website and regular office hours to provide advice, resources and an online database of available housing.

DEFERRAL POLICY

The University does not permit students entering as Combined Plan students to defer their offer of admission.

Instructions for Need-Based Financial Aid

Please review www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/engineering/combined/admissions.php for information on how to apply for financial aid.

Financial Aid documents must be completed as soon as possible, and no later than March 1, 2012. Columbia will calculate your financial need based on the forms submitted; you are not guaranteed the same financial aid package that you receive at your affiliate school.

Columbia awards no merit scholarships; all financial aid is need-based only.

The Office of Financial Aid & Educational Financing may require additional corporate and asset information and may contact you if necessary. Students declaring independent status for institutional aid purposes will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

For U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents and persons granted refugee visas by the U.S.:

- Columbia is need-blind, meaning an applicant's financial need does not affect his or her chances of admission.
- Though Columbia is need-blind, we do not guarantee that we can meet 100 percent of demonstrated financial need for all admitted Combined Plan students.
- It is the responsibility of the student to fulfill any unmet need in a financial aid award.

For foreign students:

- Columbia is also need-blind for foreign students **applying to the Combined Plan Program**, meaning that an applicant's financial need does not affect his or her chances of admission.
- Financial aid is available for foreign students, but it is limited. Students may be granted admission to the Combined Plan Program but are not guaranteed funding.
- Columbia does not guarantee that it will meet 100 percent of demonstrated financial need for foreign students awarded financial aid.
- If financial aid is not awarded at the time of admission, it will not be awarded for any subsequent years.
- It is the responsibility of the student to fulfill any unmet need in a financial aid award.

General Information

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

All financial aid is awarded only to students who demonstrate financial need; in other words, we do not offer scholarships for academic merit, artistic talent or athletic ability. Most financial aid awards from Columbia include a combination of grants and a part-time job during the academic year.

INDICATING INTENTION TO APPLY FOR COLUMBIA FINANCIAL AID

All financial aid applicants must check "Yes" to the question "Are you requesting need-based financial aid from Columbia?" on the Combined Plan Application for Admission 1. **Applicants who do not state at the time of application that they are applying for financial aid will not be considered for need-based institutional financial aid after admission unless they can demonstrate extenuating circumstances which resulted in a significant change in the family's situation.**

ONLINE APPLICATIONS

All Columbia financial aid forms can be downloaded from our website:
www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/finaid.

NEED BLIND

Columbia admits all Combined Plan candidates solely on the basis of academic and extracurricular achievement and personal merit and without regard to need. Though Columbia is need-blind, we do not guarantee that we can meet 100 percent of demonstrated financial need for all admitted Combined Plan students.

FOREIGN STUDENTS

Financial aid is available for foreign students, but it is very limited. While these students may be guaranteed admission to the Combined Plan Program, they are not guaranteed funding.

It is expected that foreign students will engage in campus employment and apply for loans from non-Columbia sources to supplement their financial aid award. In many cases, lenders require students to have a U.S.-based co-signer to secure these loans.

STUDENT/PARENT CONTRIBUTION

Columbia believes that the primary responsibility for meeting the cost of a college education lies with the student and his or her family. Parents are expected to contribute to the extent that they are capable, and students are expected to use a portion of their assets, such as bank accounts or trust funds, and to work during each summer to help contribute toward educational costs.

Helpful Hints

- Be sure to meet all deadlines. Your financial aid award cannot be calculated until all application materials have been received.
- Print the student's name and Columbia ID # on all documents that you send to the Office of Financial Aid and Educational Financing.
- If you have any questions about financial aid, please contact the Combined Plan Financial Aid Coordinator by phone at 212-854-3711 or by e-mail at cc-seas-aid@columbia.edu.

Required Forms

U.S. CITIZENS, PERMANENT RESIDENTS, AND STUDENTS HOLDING A REFUGEE VISA

1. CSS Profile: College Scholarship Service. Apply online at www.collegeboard.com/profile using a secure browser. You will need a credit card. Questions: Call 1-305-829-9793 (TTY 1-800-915-9990) or e-mail help@cssprofile.org. **Columbia's code number is 002707.**

2. FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid. To get a copy of the FAFSA, call 1-800-4FEDAID; from outside the U.S., you must call 1-319-337-5665. Complete the FAFSA online: www.fafsa.ed.gov/. **The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science FAFSA code: E00486**

3. Tax Returns and IDOC: Signed copies of parent and student 2011 federal income tax returns and W-2 forms are required for verification of the information that you report on the financial aid application forms. IDOC is a service provided by the College Board that we use to collect and scan documents. Applicants who fill out the CSS Profile form are contacted by the College Board with instructions on how to submit taxes and other relevant forms to IDOC. The 2011 tax returns should be submitted to IDOC as soon as they are complete. If 2011 tax returns cannot be submitted to IDOC before March 1, send copies of 2010 taxes and 2011 W-2s via FAX (preferred method: 212-854-5353) or mail directly to Columbia. You will be required to submit the 2011 Tax Returns to IDOC when they are available. Columbia strongly encourages you and your parents to complete your 2011 federal income taxes in February. If your parents will not file a 2011 federal tax return, they must submit the Parent Tax Non-Filer certification (available on our website). If you will not file a 2011 federal tax return, you must submit the Student Tax Non-Filer certification (available on our website).

4. Business/Corporate/Partnership/Farm Returns: If you or your parents own all or part of a business, corporation or partnership or are farm tenants, a complete copy of the most recent business tax return (including all schedules) must be submitted. Sole proprietors must submit Schedule C and/or Schedule F

(Farm). Corporations must submit K-1s as well as the complete federal 1120/1120-S returns. Partnerships must submit K-1s as well as the complete federal 1065 returns.

5. Divorced/Separated Parent's Statement:

If your natural parents are divorced or separated, the noncustodial parent must complete a Noncustodial Parent's Statement online at profileonline.collegeboard.com and send a signed copy of the 2011 Federal Tax return with full schedules and W-2 forms (see #3).

If you think there will be difficulty in submitting this information, you must write or call the financial aid office so we can evaluate any extenuating circumstances.

CANADIAN/MEXICAN STUDENT FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION:

Canadian and Mexican citizens should go to www.collegeboard.com/profile to complete the Profile (Columbia's CSS Profile code: 2116).

Copies of your family's most recent, completed Income Tax Returns (all pages and attachments) should be faxed (preferred method: 212-854-5353) or mailed to Columbia. If tax returns are not available, please submit current statements of available earnings from your parents' employers showing their yearly earnings. All tax/income documents (if not already in English) should be officially translated into English. Clearly print your name and Columbia ID Number at the top of all documents to ensure proper filing. Canadian and Mexican citizens who are also U.S. permanent residents should complete the FAFSA at: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

CSS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION:

By March 1 Foreign students should complete the CSS Profile at: www.collegeboard.com/profile (Columbia's CSS Profile code: 2116). Copies of your family's most recent, completed income tax returns (all pages and attachments) should be faxed (preferred method: 212-854-5353) or mailed to Columbia. If tax returns are not filed in your country, please submit current statements of earnings from your parents' employers showing their yearly earnings. All tax/income documents (if not already in English) should be officially translated into English. Clearly print your name and Columbia ID Number at the top of all documents to ensure proper filing.