

**GSE Certificates Policy and Procedures**  
**Northeastern University - College of Engineering**  
**July 2023**

This document describes the policies and procedures that apply for Graduate Certificates offered by the Graduate School of Engineering (GSE). Students interested in another Northeastern Graduate certificate program should use the [Northeastern University Graduate Programs contact page](#).

**Admission into a GSE Graduate Certificate**

Certificate admission requirements for **Non Degree Seeking students** include (1) a minimum 3.0 GPA and (2) completion of a relevant engineering undergraduate degree. Student without an engineering undergraduate degree should apply to the Graduate Certificate in Technology Systems Management.

**In order to be considered admissible to an Engineering Graduate Certificate, current GSE students must be in good academic standing. Students on academic probation will not be admitted into a graduate certificate program. Students must apply for admission to a Certificate program prior to their final term of study. Requests for admission in the final term will not be considered.**

Current Engineering PhD students will need to get signoff from their PhD advisor in order to be admitted into a Certificate Program.

Please click on [application to apply for certificate program](#). Once you complete the application, you will receive a notification to claim your Slate account. Please check your spam/junk folders for the email. Students will need to follow the instructions in the email to complete their application process. Graduate School of Engineering continuing students are not required to resubmit their admissions documents or pay the application fee. Please contact the Graduate School of Engineering Admissions team [coe-gradadmissions@northeastern.edu](mailto:coe-gradadmissions@northeastern.edu) for questions about the application process.

Domestic Student

- May take courses on-ground at student's campus of study (Boston, Seattle, Silicon Valley) or online.

International Student

- May take courses on-ground at student's campus of study (Boston, Seattle, Silicon Valley) or online.
- May take courses Online if student does not live in the US, and the program is allowed to be completed fully online.
- SEVIS rules are followed to determine if an F-1 student is eligible to take an online course.
- Visa compliance may restrict eligibility for taking online courses.
- For GSE Degree Seeking students
  - Students must complete the certificate coursework before or in the same semester that they complete their primary degree coursework.
  - I-20 may not be extended due to enrollment in a graduate certificate.
  - Students must be enrolled full-time in coursework counting toward their primary degree program each fall and spring term. Certificate coursework not counting toward the degree may be taken above and beyond that requirement in fall and spring, if the program allows,

and in the summer terms.

### **Certificate Coursework may be Applied Toward a GSE Degree**

Certificate coursework completed by Graduate students may be used in some cases towards an NU GSE Graduate Degree. There are two factors to consider, course eligibility and number of courses allowed to be counted for a certificate program and a degree program, known as “double counting”. The number of eligible course allowed for double counting are specified in the section below.

#### Course Eligibility

GSE certificate courses may be counted towards an Engineering Graduate Degree if the **degree program** requirements allow for the course. Refer to the specific graduate degree requirements in the university catalog. Students cannot substitute any of the certificate courses, except by petition.

#### Course Double Counting

For most **disciplinary degrees**, students can double count up to eight (8) semester hours of eligible courses for a graduate degree and graduate certificate.

An exception is made for the following disciplinary degrees where students can double count up to sixteen (16) semester hours of eligible courses (with Academic Advisor approval for courses).

Chemical Engineering, all Civil and Environmental Engineering programs pursuing the Climate and Engineering, and Sustainability Engineering certificates, Energy Systems, Engineering Management, Industrial Engineering, Operations Research, and Mechanical Engineering (general concentration only).

For all **multidisciplinary degree** (MGEN)—students can double count up to sixteen (16) semester hours of eligible courses for a graduate degree and graduate certificate.

#### Double Counting Across Certificates

Engineering graduate courses may not be double counted across graduate certificates.

#### Accelerated MS Programs

Engineering graduate courses may not be triple counted for graduate certificate and/or degree programs. Graduate courses that are double-counted towards the BS and MS degrees may not be counted towards a graduate certificate.

#### Graduate Courses Applied to an Undergraduate Degree

Graduate courses that were applied toward an undergraduate degree cannot be double-counted for a Graduate Certificate. Graduate courses completed as an undergraduate that are taken above and beyond the requirements for the undergraduate degree may count toward a Graduate Certificate.

#### **Academic Standing**

All certificate seeking students must meet the GSE requirements of a 3.0 GPA to remain in good standing. Only students who complete the required coursework and remain in good standing will be eligible to be awarded a certificate.

### **Co-op**

Non-degree seeking students are not eligible to participate in co-op. Co-op eligibility will reside with the graduate degree program of the degree seeking student. There are no additional considerations allotted by the certificate program.

### **Applying to Graduate**

Students must apply to graduate for their certificate programs. At the beginning of the term that students are planning on graduating from their certificate program or certificate and degree program, students must apply to graduate for the certificate. If a student is graduating with both a certificate and degree program, they must apply to graduate to both the degree and the certificate program separately. The certificate and degree are awarded concurrently, even if the certificate coursework is completed prior to the degree coursework.

### **Certificate Transcript**

Awarding of a certificate will be noted on the official Northeastern transcript of students who complete a certificate program.