What is Engineering Summer Bridge?

Engineering Summer Bridge is an academic summer program to help incoming first-year students prepare for their engineering or science-based major. The program also includes structured social and cultural events that encourage students to build relationships with each other and relate in-class activities to out-of-class experiences. We guide participants toward academic success to give them a head start in the challenging yet rewarding fields of engineering and science.

A Closer Look

Engineering Summer Bridge students have the advantage of an early transition to the college pace and, in particular, to the College of Engineering’s curriculum. Group study sessions are incorporated into the schedule, along with professional development workshops and cultural immersion opportunities, enhancing the classroom experience.

Our research indicates that our students tend to benefit in specific ways. Engineering Summer Bridge participants:

• Have a higher GPA than non-participants
• Are more likely to graduate from the College of Engineering
• Are more likely to obtain competitive-salary internships, co-ops, and full-time employment
• Acclimate more easily to the college environment
• Build an extensive network of lifelong friends
• Learn effective college study skills
• Earn college credit*
• Reside in the FISE special living option during the academic year

* University Park students only

The Engineering Summer Bridge Experience

“Summer Bridge was one of the most enjoyable summers I’ve ever had. Not only did I meet people from across the U.S., but I was also introduced to important faculty members, as well as mentors, who aided me during the summer while studying various branches of math and science.”

— Ikenna Okafor, Computer Engineering

“Looking back, Summer Bridge was one of the most beneficial experiences of my life. It opened my eyes to college life and engineering in a way that nothing else could. Because of Summer Bridge, I have gained the skills, knowledge, and ability to be the successful person that I am today.”

— Jason B. Morris, Electrical Engineering
What You Need to Know

WHERE
Penn State University Park*
*This program is planned as a residential experience where students will be housed in a residence hall on campus. However, the format may shift to a hybrid experience with a virtual component. Updates are forthcoming and will be shared as soon as possible.

WHEN
Sunday, June 19 – Friday, July 29
• Move-in day is Sunday, June 19
• New Student Orientation will take place Monday, June 20 – Tuesday, June 21

COST
$1,200 per student*
*Cost includes room and board, course materials, professional development programs, and additional services provided throughout the summer experience. Financial assistance for Summer Bridge may be available on a case-by-case basis. Eligibility is based on demonstrated need and Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) review. Please use 2019 tax information to complete the 2021-22 FAFSA at this link. If you are unable to cover the full expense of the program, please briefly detail your financial background in your application.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS
Students will have access to computer labs, University Libraries, and The Libraries’ resources. All participants must provide their own transportation to and from State College.

Program Application
Please complete the online application at bit.ly/coe-bridge-app.
APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 8 AT 11:59 P.M. ET

For more information, contact:
Lauren Griggs, Ph.D.
Director, Multicultural Engineering Program
Assistant Teaching Professor
mep@engr.psu.edu

inclusion engr.psu.edu/summerbridge