

Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs

Think your future lies in engineering? On these pages, you'll find the *U.S. News* rankings of undergraduate programs accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The rankings are based solely on a spring 2008 peer survey of deans and senior faculty that asked them to rate each program they are familiar with on a scale from 1 (marginal) to 5 (distinguished). On the next page are programs at engineering schools that offer doctorates, which often means

a wider range of offerings at the undergraduate level. Students who prefer a program focused on undergraduates can use the list of top programs below at schools whose terminal degree is the bachelor's or master's. Forty-three percent of those surveyed returned ratings of the group below; 56 percent did so in the doctorate group. Respondents were also asked to name the best programs in specialty areas; the five schools mentioned most often in each category appear here.

Best Programs

AT ENGINEERING SCHOOLS WHOSE HIGHEST DEGREE IS A BACHELOR'S OR MASTER'S

Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)
1.	Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (IN)	4.5	17.	Lafayette College (PA)	3.3	34.	The Citadel (SC)*	3.0
2.	Harvey Mudd College (CA)	4.4	17.	Smith College (MA)	3.3	34.	U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (NY)*	3.0
3.	Cooper Union (NY)	4.1	17.	Union College (NY)	3.3	34.	University of Michigan–Dearborn*	3.0
4.	Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo*	4.0	21.	Baylor University (TX)	3.2	38.	Boise State University (ID)*	2.9
5.	United States Military Academy (NY)*	3.9	21.	Gonzaga University (WA)	3.2	38.	California State U.–Long Beach*	2.9
6.	Franklin W. Olin Col. of Eng. (MA)	3.8	21.	Santa Clara University (CA)	3.2	38.	California State U.–Northridge*	2.9
6.	United States Naval Academy (MD)*	3.8	21.	U.S. Coast Guard Academy (CT)*	3.2	38.	LeTourneau University (TX)	2.9
8.	Bucknell University (PA)	3.7	21.	University of San Diego	3.2	38.	Manhattan College (NY)	2.9
8.	U.S. Air Force Academy (CO)*	3.7	21.	Virginia Military Institute*	3.2	38.	Mercer University (GA)	2.9
10.	Villanova University (PA)	3.6	27.	Bradley University (IL)	3.1	38.	Miami University–Oxford (OH)*	2.9
11.	Milwaukee School of Engineering	3.5	27.	Embry Riddle Aero. U.–Prescott (AZ)	3.1	38.	Northern Arizona University*	2.9
12.	Calif. State Poly. Univ.–Pomona*	3.4	27.	Loyola Marymount University (CA)	3.1	38.	Ohio Northern University	2.9
12.	Embry Riddle Aeronautical U. (FL)	3.4	27.	Trinity University (TX)	3.1	38.	Seattle University	2.9
12.	Rowan University (NJ)*	3.4	27.	Univ. of Colo.–Colorado Springs*	3.1	38.	St. Louis University	2.9
12.	San Jose State University (CA)*	3.4	27.	University of Portland (OR)	3.1	38.	Texas Christian University	2.9
12.	Swarthmore College (PA)	3.4	27.	Valparaiso University (IN)	3.1	38.	Univ. of Massachusetts–Dartmouth*	2.9
17.	Kettering University (MI)	3.3	34.	California State U.–Los Angeles*	3.0			

Specialties

AT SCHOOLS WHOSE HIGHEST DEGREE IS A BACHELOR'S OR MASTER'S (*Public)

AEROSPACE/AERONAUTICAL/ASTRONAUTICAL

- Embry Riddle Aeronautical U. (FL)
- U.S. Air Force Academy (CO)*
- Embry Riddle Aero. U.–Prescott (AZ)
- United States Naval Academy (MD)*
- Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo*

CHEMICAL

- Cooper Union (NY)
- Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (IN)
- Rowan University (NJ)*
- Bucknell University (PA)
- Manhattan College (NY)
- University of Minnesota–Duluth*

CIVIL

- Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (IN)
- Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo*
- United States Military Academy (NY)*

- Cooper Union (NY)
- Bucknell University (PA)

COMPUTER ENGINEERING

- Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (IN)
- Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo*
- Harvey Mudd College (CA)
- Cooper Union (NY)
- San Jose State University (CA)*

ELECTRICAL/ELECTRONIC/COMMUNICATIONS

- Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (IN)
- Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo*
- Cooper Union (NY)
- Harvey Mudd College (CA)
- United States Naval Academy (MD)*

INDUSTRIAL/MANUFACTURING

- Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo*
- Kettering University (MI)
- Bradley University (IL)
- Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (IN)
- San Jose State University (CA)*

MECHANICAL

- Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (IN)
- Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo*
- Cooper Union (NY)
- Harvey Mudd College (CA)
- Kettering University (MI)

Note: Peer assessment survey conducted by Synovate. To be ranked in a specialty, a school must have either a program or course offerings in that subject area. Based on a recommendation from the American Society for Engineering Education, a few engineering schools with small doctoral programs were added to the bachelor's and master's category.

Best Programs

AT ENGINEERING SCHOOLS WHOSE HIGHEST DEGREE IS A DOCTORATE

Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)	Rank	School (*Public)	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)
1.	Massachusetts Inst. of Technology	4.8	25.	Univ. of Minnesota—Twin Cities*	3.6	51.	Colorado School of Mines*	3.0
2.	Stanford University (CA)	4.7	28.	Harvard University (MA)	3.5	51.	Drexel University (PA)	3.0
2.	University of California—Berkeley*	4.7	28.	North Carolina State U.—Raleigh*	3.5	51.	Tufts University (MA)	3.0
4.	California Institute of Technology	4.5	28.	Ohio State University—Columbus*	3.5	51.	University of California—Irvine*	3.0
4.	Georgia Institute of Technology*	4.5	28.	University of Florida*	3.5	51.	University of Delaware*	3.0
4.	U. of Illinois—Urbana—Champaign*	4.5	28.	University of Pennsylvania	3.5	51.	Univ. of Massachusetts—Amherst*	3.0
7.	University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*	4.4	28.	Univ. of Southern California	3.5	51.	University of Pittsburgh*	3.0
8.	Cornell University (NY)	4.3	28.	University of Virginia*	3.5	51.	Worcester Polytechnic Inst. (MA)	3.0
9.	Carnegie Mellon University (PA)	4.2	35.	University of California—Davis*	3.4	61.	Boston University	2.9
9.	Purdue Univ.—West Lafayette (IN)*	4.2	35.	Univ. of California—Santa Barbara*	3.4	61.	Colorado State University*	2.9
11.	Princeton University (NJ)	4.1	35.	University of Colorado—Boulder*	3.4	61.	Illinois Institute of Technology	2.9
11.	University of Texas—Austin*	4.1	38.	Arizona State University*	3.3	61.	Kansas State University*	2.9
13.	Univ. of Wisconsin—Madison*	4.0	38.	Brown University (RI)	3.3	61.	Northeastern University (MA)	2.9
14.	Johns Hopkins University (MD)	3.9	38.	Case Western Reserve Univ. (OH)	3.3	61.	SUNY—Stony Brook*	2.9
14.	Northwestern University (IL)	3.9	38.	Iowa State University*	3.3	61.	University at Buffalo—SUNY*	2.9
14.	Virginia Tech*	3.9	38.	Lehigh University (PA)	3.3	61.	University of Illinois—Chicago*	2.9
17.	Pennsylvania State U.—Univ. Park*	3.8	38.	Vanderbilt University (TN)	3.3	61.	University of Iowa*	2.9
17.	Rice University (TX)	3.8	38.	Washington University in St. Louis	3.3	70.	Michigan Technological University*	2.8
17.	Texas A&M Univ.—College Station*	3.8	38.	Yale University (CT)	3.3	70.	Oregon State University*	2.8
17.	Univ. of California—San Diego*	3.8	46.	Dartmouth College (NH)	3.2	70.	Rochester Inst. of Technology (NY)	2.8
21.	Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst. (NY)	3.7	46.	Michigan State University*	3.2	70.	University of Kansas*	2.8
21.	Univ. of California—Los Angeles*	3.7	46.	University of Notre Dame (IN)	3.2	70.	University of Rochester (NY)	2.8
21.	Univ. of Maryland—College Park*	3.7	49.	Rutgers, St. U. of N.J.—New Brunswick*	3.1	70.	University of Tennessee*	2.8
21.	University of Washington*	3.7	49.	University of Arizona*	3.1	70.	University of Utah*	2.8
25.	Columbia University (NY)	3.6	51.	Auburn University (AL)*	3.0	70.	Washington State University*	2.8
25.	Duke University (NC)	3.6	51.	Clemson University (SC)*	3.0			

Specialties

AT SCHOOLS WHOSE HIGHEST DEGREE IS A DOCTORATE (*Public)

AEROSPACE/AERONAUTICAL/ ASTRONAUTICAL

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
2. Georgia Institute of Technology*
3. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
4. Purdue Univ.—West Lafayette (IN)*
5. California Institute of Technology

BIOLOGICAL/AGRICULTURAL

1. U. of Illinois—Urbana—Champaign*
2. Cornell University (NY)
3. Texas A&M Univ.—College Station*
4. Iowa State University*
5. Purdue Univ.—West Lafayette (IN)*
5. University of California—Davis*

BIOMEDICAL/BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

1. Johns Hopkins University (MD)
2. Duke University (NC)
3. Georgia Institute of Technology*
4. Univ. of California—San Diego*
5. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology

CHEMICAL

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
2. University of California—Berkeley*
3. Univ. of Wisconsin—Madison*
4. Univ. of Minnesota—Twin Cities*
5. Stanford University (CA)

CIVIL

1. U. of Illinois—Urbana—Champaign*
2. University of California—Berkeley*
3. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
4. University of Texas—Austin*
5. Georgia Institute of Technology*

COMPUTER ENGINEERING

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
2. Stanford University (CA)
3. Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
4. University of California—Berkeley*
5. U. of Illinois—Urbana—Champaign*

ELECTRICAL/ELECTRONIC/ COMMUNICATIONS

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
2. Stanford University (CA)
3. U. of Illinois—Urbana—Champaign*
4. University of California—Berkeley*
5. Georgia Institute of Technology*

ENGINEERING SCIENCE/ ENGINEERING PHYSICS

1. Cornell University (NY)
2. University of California—Berkeley*
2. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
4. California Institute of Technology
4. U. of Illinois—Urbana—Champaign*

ENVIRONMENTAL/ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

1. Stanford University (CA)
2. U. of Illinois—Urbana—Champaign*
3. University of California—Berkeley*
4. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
5. Johns Hopkins University (MD)

INDUSTRIAL/MANUFACTURING

1. Georgia Institute of Technology*
2. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
3. Purdue Univ.—West Lafayette (IN)*
4. Pennsylvania State U.—University Park*
5. University of California—Berkeley*

MATERIALS

1. U. of Illinois—Urbana—Champaign*
2. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
3. University of California—Berkeley*
4. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
4. Northwestern University (IL)

MECHANICAL

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology
2. University of Michigan—Ann Arbor*
3. University of California—Berkeley*
4. Georgia Institute of Technology*
5. Stanford University (CA)