Consistently ranked among the top 5 computer science departments in the country, Illinois Computer Science has the unique combination of both quality and scale. Not only do we attract the brightest students—fall 2017 incoming freshmen averaged a 33.1 ACT composite score—but each year we graduate hundreds of exceptional students who go on to become leaders in industry, academia, and public service fields. Our College of Engineering educates more engineering undergraduates than MIT, Stanford, and Caltech combined.

Exceptional, internationally recognized faculty

Our 80 faculty members have made significant contributions to a vast range of areas, including cloud computing and distributed systems, computer vision, data mining, security, software engineering, high-performance computing, and emerging fields like social computing, computational advertising, and bioinformatics. We’re proud of our 15 ACM Fellows, 15 IEEE Fellows, 8 Sloan Research Fellows, and 32 NSF CAREER Award recipients.

Highly educated, creative, & well-prepared graduates

Baccalaureates who graduated during academic year 2016-2017 reported an average starting salary of $96,518, with 97% of respondents employed or enrolled in an advanced degree. Our alumni have launched entirely new industries, generated billions of dollars in commerce, created tens of thousands of jobs, and revolutionized the way people communicate, shop, conduct business, and are entertained. Companies that have been founded or that are led by Illinois CS graduates are among the biggest names in the high tech arena, including C3 IoT, Malwarebytes, Match.com, Microsoft, Netscape, Optimizely, PayPal, YouTube, and Yelp.

Illinois Computer Science Facts and Figures

- 12,760 alumni
- 1,786 undergraduate students
- 1,272 graduate students
- 80 faculty
- $34.8 million research expenditures in 2017
- Birthplace of Mosaic, the world’s first popular web browser and the LLVM compiler infrastructure
- University of Illinois is #2 in NSF funding
- College of Engineering ranked #13 in Academic Rankings of World Universities in Engineering
- CS is ranked #5 in U.S. News & World Report Graduate School Rankings
- Ranked #22 in Academic Rankings of World Universities in Computer Science & Engineering
Pick a CS Major that Fits Your Interests

Illinois Computer Science offers several undergraduate degree programs based on the same set of core CS courses.

Differences in requirements reflect the differences in the focus of the degree programs. Engineering students take a Physics sequence and science electives, and they have access to our Fifth Year Master’s Programs. Mathematics & CS and Statistics & CS students take additional mathematics and statistics courses.

CS + X students pursue a program of study incorporating a strong grounding in computer science with technical or professional training in the arts and sciences. Learn more at cs.illinois.edu/cs-x

Serious Infrastructure for Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Our faculty and students are part of an entrepreneurial ecosystem where groundbreaking research addresses real-world problems. The Brookings Institute recently called Champaign-Urbana one of the top U.S. locations for per-capita venture capital. Popular Mechanics designated C-U a Best Start-Up City in America.

Seize the Day

At Illinois, you’ll have access to countless opportunities and support to ensure an amazing experience both inside and outside the classroom. Get involved in student activities, network with alumni and potential employers, and take advantage of services designed to help you make the most of your college career.

With exclusive events like After Hours, lectures from Engineers in Residence, and about 70 other technology talks, corporate days, and sponsored events occurring each year in the Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science alone, CS students get to interact with a ton of companies, from start-ups to household names like Google and Facebook.

On campus there are over 1,000 student groups that provide a range of activities for social interaction, professional development, mentorship, charity, and fun. HackIllinois, Reflections | Projections, and ChicTech are just a few of the exciting projects and events run by CS student groups where you can meet interesting people and find your passion. See go.cs.illinois.edu/studentgroups.

Collaborative Spaces & Powerful Resources

Most CS faculty and students work in the Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science, which has some of the best classrooms, research and instructional labs, and informal meeting spaces on the Illinois campus.

CS researchers have access to the NSF-funded Blue Waters supercomputer, the nation's most powerful and productive machine for open science, which is nearly 3 million times faster than the average laptop and can perform quadrillions of calculations every second.