

## **FAQ: Graduate Admissions** *MS in Explosives Engineering – Dept Mining & Nuclear Engineering*

### ***1. Where can I go to learn more about the program?***

General information regarding the program, current research activities, faculty members, and their research interests is accessible through the internet at: <http://explosives.mst.edu/>.

### ***2. What are the Admissions Requirements?***

Admission is normally awarded to those students who have a BS in engineering, technology or a physical science and are ranked in the upper third of their baccalaureate graduating class or who have performed successfully at the graduate level. For domestic students a 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) is required. To be admitted to the program, a GRE Quantitative (Q) score of at least 600, and Analytical Writing Score (AW) of at least 3.5 is required.

US applicants are required to pass a background check. Certain persons are prohibited from handling explosives and therefore prohibited persons will not be admitted into the program. To determine if you are or are not a prohibited person please check out the <http://explosives.mst.edu/> website, click on prospective students – eligibility then safe explosives act. Prohibited persons must first obtain written relief from the ATF before their application will be considered.

International applicants for onsite enrollment are prohibited by US Law and must first obtain relief from the ATF for their application to be considered. In addition a minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper), 230 (computer) or 88 (IBT) is required. Note for the TOEFL: if the student has an MS degree from a US institution or has been studying in the US more than one year, applicants are not required to submit a TOEFL score. International distance students must be from friendly countries, have bona fida legitimate need for the masters and their application may also be passed on to US security agencies.

For further information go to the Admissions website at: <http://www.mst.edu/?admissions>

### ***3. What do I need to submit to the Missouri S&T Admissions Office?***

The following eight items must be submitted for the application to be complete and ready for consideration:

- a. Application form
- b. Application fee (currently \$50. Note that current Missouri S&T students do not need to submit this fee)
- c. GRE scores (this is required of ALL students) (minimum score required for program entrance is Q >600; AW>3.5)
- d. TOEFL scores – the minimum score required for departmental entrance is 550 (paper), 230 (computer), or 88 (IBT). Note for the TOEFL: if the student has an MS degree from a US institution or has been studying in the US more than one year, they are not required to submit a TOEFL score.
- e. Official transcripts (above high school) covering all credits to date (minimum of 3.0/4.0 or 70% or better required by program for admission).
- f. 3 letters of recommendation
- g. Statement of purpose discussing career goals and interests, as well as general background information.

#### ***4. What are the Admissions Deadlines?***

All credentials must be received in the Admissions Office before the dates listed below in order to be considered for the respective term that is noted.

Fall Semester - June 15  
Winter Semester - November 15  
Summer Session - April 1

#### ***5. How do I apply for financial support from the department/program?***

Due to popularity and fiscal restraints, financial support from the program for the MS is not the norm. The MS is run in a similar manner to MBA. Most of the financial support available for graduate students is associated with specific research projects and is dependent upon the availability of grants from individual faculty members. In addition GTA's may be available for those suitably qualified to assist in the teaching of undergraduate mining and explosives classes, but these are generally reserved for PhD students who have first gained the necessary skills. At this point there is not a PhD in explosives engineering available and PhD's are generally obtained in Mining Engineering. There is no program financial support available for distance students. Details on other sources of financial support are given on our website.

#### ***6. What is the process for being accepted into the Explosives Engineering Program?***

After all application materials have been received by the Missouri S&T Admissions Office, the file is forwarded to the department for evaluation. After the department receives the file, all materials within the file are examined to ensure that the minimum admission requirements have been met. If a student is accepted, a letter from the department will be sent to the applicant confirming admission. The file is then returned to the Admissions Office. Applicants will also be notified of funding, if available, at the time of acceptance. This process sometimes takes several weeks to complete, following receipt of the application. We normally try to expedite applications but it depends on the time of the year and the availability of the explosives faculty for application review.

#### ***7. What are the research topics of your faculty?***

The faculty interests can be located on our website at:  
<http://mining.mst.edu/facultyandstaff/facultydirectory.html>.

#### ***8. Which faculty are accepting new graduate students?***

Once you are accepted into the explosives masters program you will be assigned a faculty advisor. You may wish to pick an advisor that best matches your interests. We currently have 2 full time explosives faculty and are waiting for the economy to upturn to gain a third. Advising for the masters of science non thesis option for distance students is a less involved process than with research thesis.

#### ***9. Will I have to take the GRE? What about TOEFL?***

Yes the GRE is required for admission at Missouri S&T. The Verbal, Quantitative, and Analytical Writing portions of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) must be taken. International students must take the examination before admission, and have a Quantitative score of at least 600 and an Analytical Writing score of at least 3.5. National students must take the GRE before enrolling. The Program requires a minimum TOEFL score of 550 from foreign applicants to be accepted to a graduate program. Foreign applicants who are educated in English can write a letter explaining their English proficiency. The Department may waive the TOEFL requirements on the basis of such a letter.

***10. Do I need to submit official GRE scores, transcripts, etc?***

All application materials submitted to the university must be official (i.e., official transcripts must be sent directly from the university to our Admissions Office; official GRE scores must be sent directly from ETS, etc.). If unofficial materials are submitted, the application can be reviewed, however, it is not possible for the student to enroll at Missouri S&T. The ETS code for our school is 6876.

***11. I have some difficulty in providing my own financial support for my graduate study. Are there opportunities for me to receive some kind of financial aid, such as a research assistantship?***

The program gives no financial support for distance students. Onsite students may receive a GRA or GTA if work is available and the qualifications of the applicants fit the needs of the position. For example a graduate teaching assistant (GTA) will normally have already taken the class that he assists in teaching.

If you receive an admission letter with no commitment of financial support, your application is kept as an active application until the start of the semester for which you have applied. Your information will be reconsidered together with all new applications regularly. Therefore, there is the possibility that you will receive funding. If this occurs, you will receive an updated letter indicating this. However, some applicants make a decision to enroll at Missouri S&T with no commitment of support. If you decide to accept admission, please be aware that you will ultimately be responsible for your own financial support. For information regarding the cost of attendance, please refer to the projected costs for graduate students at: <http://sfa.mst.edu/costs/>.

***12. Are there other places I can go for additional information?***

Additional information may be found at the following links:

Mining Faculty Directory: <http://mining.mst.edu/facultyandstaff/facultydirectory.html>

Program Graduate Degree Programs and Options:

<http://mining.mst.edu/academicprograms/graddegree.html>

Mining Program Research: <http://mining.mst.edu/research/index.html>

Explosives program <http://explosives.mst.edu>

***13. Where do I send my application package?***

All application materials should be sent directly to our Admissions Office as follows:

Missouri University of Science and Technology  
Graduate Admissions Office  
G-2 Parker Hall, 300 W. 13th Street  
Rolla, MO 65409  
email address: [graduate-admissions@mst.edu](mailto:graduate-admissions@mst.edu)