

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you accept international students?

Yes, we accept the top candidates who apply.

How can I find more information for international students?

Many questions regarding international programs at MSU can be found at <http://www.oiss.isp.msu.edu/> , the Office for International Students and Scholars.

Do you accept the IELTS language test for admission to the Department of Statistics and Probability?

No; we require the TOEFL.

What if my TOEFL score is below the required score of 80 or if any of the individual scores (Listening 19, Writing 22, Reading 19, Speaking 19) are below the requirement?

Not normally. There is only a slight chance that you could be admitted provisionally if your scores are only very slightly lower than any of the above.

I am an international student. If I am admitted will I be required to take an English test when I arrive at MSU?

Yes, this is a standard procedure.

Where can I find additional information for international students at MSU?

Please visit the link for the Office of International Students and Scholars at:

<http://www.oiss.isp.msu.edu>

Do you accept applications for Spring Semester?

No, we accept new applications only in the Fall Semester of each academic year.

What score do you require on the GRE?

We use your GRE score for comparison with other candidates. A minimum score is not required.

If I apply for the PhD program and I am not considered eligible can my application be considered for the master's program instead?

Yes, you will be considered for MS if we feel that is appropriate.

How many students do you admit each year?

This varies but typically 8-10 Phd students and approximately 20 master's students.

If I tell you about my background can you give me an idea about my chances for admission?

No, in order to be considered for admission you must formally apply.

If I want to pursue a PhD program in Statistics do I need a master's degree first?

MS is not required but desirable.

Do students in the master's program receive assistantships or tuition waivers?

We do not usually support MS students, however, financial support may be considered if the student is admitted to the Phd program but doing required MS courses their first year of study. Much depends on the availability of funds.

I see that you require a calculus based probability and statistics class before admission (such as equivalent to STT 441 at MSU). I am wondering if I can take this course after receiving admission to your program.

No, this is not allowed.

I am already a student at MSU. How do I apply to the Statistics & Probability Graduate Program?

- a) If your current major is in the College of Natural Science you simply let us know about your intent to apply to our department. Then provide transcripts (which you can get from the Registrar's Office) and three letters of recommendation. You will also need to complete our Advanced Mathematics/Statistics Profile form.
- b) If your current major is outside the College of Natural Science you need to complete a formal application with the University Admissions Office and follow our instructions for the application procedure.

When will I know if I will be offered an assistantship?

Usually by April 15.

Where can I get information regarding housing at MSU?

The Residence Housing and Education website, <http://www.liveon.msu.edu/> , will give you information on University housing services.

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