

1. What programs are offered in the School of Computing?

- MS in Computer Science (thesis and non-thesis)
- MS in Cybersecurity and Privacy (thesis and non-thesis)
- Masters in Applied Math Science (MAMS) – Computer Science
- Cybersecurity Certificate
- PhD in Computer Science

[Program Descriptions](#) | [Admissions](#)

2. Does the School of Computing offer online degrees?

No. All graduate CSCI courses are taught on the Athens Campus.

3. What are the Double Dawgs Pathways?

The program allows students to earn both a bachelor's and a master's degree in five years or less.

Available pathways:

- BS.CS/MS.CS (non-thesis)
- BS.CS/MS Cybersecurity and Privacy (non-thesis)

[Double Dawgs Programs](#)

4. How do I apply to a Pathway program?

1. Select the program in Athena.
2. Complete the School of Computing Pathway Application.
Deadlines: March 20 (Summer/Fall start, decisions April 1) and October 20 (Spring start, decisions November 1).

5. Is the GRE required?

The GRE is **optional** for all MS and PhD CSCI programs beginning Spring 2026.

6. What are the application deadlines?

- Domestic: Fall – July 1 | Spring – Nov 15
- International: Fall – Apr 15 | Spring – Oct 15

Summer admission is not available.

[Graduate School Deadlines](#)

7. Can I find out if I qualify before applying?

No. The School of Computing does not prescreen applicants. Admission requires submission of a complete application with all documents, which is then reviewed by the admissions committee.

[Requirements](#)

8. What background is required for admission?

Applicants should hold a bachelor's degree, preferably in Computer Science or a related field, with coursework in:

- Calculus I
- Intro to Computing/Programming
- Software Development
- Systems Programming
- Discrete Mathematics
- Theory of Computing
- Data Structures

9. What are the transcript requirements for international applicants?

Refer to [Graduate Admissions Requirements](#).

10. How do I apply for the Cybersecurity Certificate?

Open to students with a bachelor's degree. Apply through the UGA Graduate School Online Application with an official transcript. TOEFL/IELTS is required only if English was not the primary language of instruction.

11. What are the minimum English proficiency scores?

- TOEFL: 80 overall, minimum 20 in speaking/writing
- IELTS: 6.5 overall, no band below 6.0
- Intensive English Program: Complete Level 6 with confirmation from IEP Director
Duolingo is no longer accepted.

12. What if I don't meet the minimum English scores?

You may retake TOEFL/IELTS before the deadline, complete UGA's Intensive English Program, or take the ITA-TEP test. [IEP Info](#)

13. Can the School tell me if I qualify for admission with financial aid before I apply?

No. The School of Computing does not conduct informal reviews. Funding is primarily awarded to PhD students. MS students may be considered if funding and departmental needs allow.

14. Can I transfer credits from another institution?

Yes, within Graduate School limits. Master's: up to 6–14 credits (depending on program length). PhD: up to 9 credits. Courses must be from an accredited institution, with a grade of B or higher, and not used for another degree.

15. How do I request course equivalency for CSCI graduate courses?

Students may petition the Director of Graduate Studies for course substitutions or complete the Course Equivalency/Transfer Form.

16. How do I check the status of my application?

Visit gradapply.uga.edu/apply/status. Applications are marked as “Decided” once reviewed.

17. Am I automatically considered for financial aid if admitted?

No. Students must separately apply for Teaching Assistantships (TA) or contact faculty for Research Assistantships (RA).

18. How do I apply for TA/RA positions?

Apply via the [School of Computing website](#) each semester. For RA positions, students may also contact faculty directly.

19. Do English proficiency waivers apply to TA eligibility?

- Waived with a US **master’s degree**: Still required to meet TA English scores.
- Waived with a US **bachelor’s degree** or degree from an English-speaking country: TA English test is waived.

20. What are the TA English proficiency requirements?

- TOEFL speaking: 26+
- IELTS overall: 8.0+
- ITA-TEP: Level 3 or 4

21. What are my chances of admission based on GPA/GRE/TOEFL?

The School does not prescreen applicants. Applications are reviewed holistically.

22. When should I apply for financial aid?

Most aid is awarded for fall. Fellowship deadlines are in January–February. Departmental assistantship decisions are typically made May–July (fall) and Oct–Dec (spring).

23. What is UGA’s Teaching Assistantship policy?

All TAs must attend TA orientation, complete GRSC 7770 or LLED 7769 in their first semester, and (if international) demonstrate English proficiency. [TA Policy](#)

24. Will tuition be waived if I’m admitted?

No. Tuition waivers are provided only with a TA/RA position (13–20 hours/week). Waivers reduce tuition to \$25 plus student fees.

25. How are assistantships decided?

Priority is given to PhD students. Criteria include academic performance, research productivity, TA effectiveness, and English proficiency. Students with GPA < 3.0 or academic violations are not eligible.

26. How will I know if I received a TA/RA?

Offer letters are sent by email. Students must accept or decline by the deadline. Those not selected will not receive notification.

27. I have been admitted but not received my I-20. What should I do?

After accepting admission, apply for the I-20 in Compass and provide proof of funding. Contact the Office of Global Engagement (OGE) if you need assistance.

28. Can I defer my admission?

Yes. You may request a one-time deferral before the start of the admitted semester by emailing gradadm@uga.edu with your name, program, and new term.

29. How do I withdraw my application?

Withdraw in your application status portal.

30. Can I receive course advising before arriving on campus?

No. Advising occurs only after arriving in Athens, clearing holds, and checking in with OGE.

31. The I-20 estimate is higher than my assistantship. What does this mean?

The estimate may exceed actual costs. You must show proof of funds for the difference, but actual expenses may be lower depending on housing/living choices.

32. How do I clear holds (advisement, POD, etc.)?

- Academic Advisement: Meet with Directors of Graduate Studies
- Verifying Lawful Presence: Complete immigration check-in via Compass
- Proof of Degree: Provide official final transcript/degree certificate to Graduate Admissions
- Health: Submit medical forms to UGA Health Center
- Financial: Clear student account with Bursar's Office

33. What is GRSC 7001 (GradFIRST seminar)?

A required course for all graduate students in semester 1 or 2. Must earn C or better.

34. Does the School of Computing hold orientation?

Yes, each fall for new graduate students. Students are also encouraged to attend Graduate School Orientation and ISL Orientation.

35. Do I need a Proximity Card and UGA ID Card?

Yes. New students must get a UGA ID with proximity chip (\$30) at the UGA Card Office in Tate Center.

36. Where can I find academic calendar and deadlines?

[Registrar's Office](#) | [Bursar's Office](#)

37. Where can I find Graduate School forms and deadlines?

[Forms](#) | [Deadlines](#)

38. Where can I find resources on campus services, tuition, fees, health insurance, and transit?

[Incoming Students](#)

39. How do I register for classes?

Clear holds, meet with advisor, then register via Athena. Time-tickets are sent by email.

40. What is Drop/Add week?

First 5 days of class. Afterward, late adds require instructor approval (permitted only within first 4 weeks). [Late Add Form](#)

41. What if a course is full?

Use the waitlist option in Athena. Waitlists close 1–2 days before classes start.

42. Can I drop a course after the first week?

Yes, by withdrawing in Athena. International students should check with immigration advisors before withdrawal. Students on assistantships must maintain 12 graduate credit hours.

43. How do I contact professors?

Attend office hours or email with your full name, program, and UGAID.

44. How do I ensure graduation paperwork is complete?

Keep copies of submitted forms. Contact gradinfo@uga.edu with your name and 81X number if unsure.

45. How do I change my graduation date?

Email gradinfo@uga.edu to request removal of your graduation date in Athena, then reapply for the correct term.

46. Where can I find Commencement information?

Graduate students attend commencement only in the semester of their official graduation term. The School of Computing also holds a spring recognition program. See [commencement](#).

Revised: September 2025