

SOIL SCIENCE

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-admissions/how-to-apply/>). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

Prerequisites for major work in Soil Science vary with the area of specialization and the degree sought, but courses in chemistry, mathematics, physics, geology, and basic and applied biological sciences are required.

Applicants for the M.S. degree must have a baccalaureate degree including 76 credits of basic and applied natural sciences. Admission to the Ph.D. program usually requires an M.S. or equivalent degree with a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 3.25 (on a 4.00 scale). Applicants for the Ph.D. program will be evaluated on the quality of work completed in all previous degree programs. Students who lack some of the prerequisite courses may be admitted at the discretion of the faculty member who will serve as the student's adviser. The best-qualified applicants will be accepted up to the number of spaces available for new students. Generally students are not admitted into the program without a faculty member agreeing to serve as the adviser. Credits for prerequisite courses cannot be applied towards requirements for the degree.