Plastics and Polymer Engineering Technology

Required Courses

Why Choose Plastics and Polymer Engineering Technology

The plastics and rubber programs at Ferris State University are among the biggest, best, and few within the United States. The Plastics Engineering Technology and the Rubber Engineering Technology four-year degree programs are fed by this common first two-year curriculum which introduces the student to the world of polymer materials. Plastics/Rubber continues to grow on a yearly basis, and the graduates out of each of the two bachelor degree programs gain immediate status as successful technical leaders.

This innovative two-year curriculum of study provides students with a background in such topics as materials/testing, processing, tooling, product development, and an exploration of the career possibilities within this vast industry. Classes emphasize hands-on learning, using the same type of equipment that is currently used in industry. Most students continue their education past the first two years to receive their BS degree in either Plastics Engineering Technology or Rubber Engineering Technology.

Partnership with Industry

Both the plastics and rubber industries have long shown support for the polymer programs here at Ferris. They have even sponsored the construction of the National Elastomer Center, the building that houses these programs. The National Elastomer Center contains state-of-the-art laboratories, equipment, and classrooms. Many companies actively support these programs by donating equipment and materials, making on-campus presentations, and sponsoring field trips to their facilities.

Students also serve a paid industry internship. This experience gives the student valuable, firsthand experience before graduation. Some internships occur out-of-state, and some companies even assist with room and board accommodations to attract students to their facilities. The summer experience internship helps students determine what type of position they want to pursue after graduation.

Career Opportunities

After completing the two year program, students are immediately employable within the polymer industry. Or, if they choose, they are prepared to enter the BS degree program in Plastics Engineering Technology or in Rubber Engineering Technology. AAS Degree graduates usually start employment in first-level salaried positions such as manufacturing technician, laboratory technician, or foreman/supervisor. Salaries typically start at approximately $45,000 per year. BS Degree graduates begin at approximately $52,000 to $80,000 per year and can accelerate at a
rapid pace in the years that follow.

**Admission Requirements**

Admission to the College of Engineering Technology is open to high school graduates who demonstrate academic preparedness, maturity, and who have good educational goals and practices. Students with backgrounds appropriate to their chosen program of studies grasp initial concepts quickly, but this is not a determining factor in being very successful in the future within the program. The average GPA of first-time students in our technical programs is 2.8, and the average SAT composite score is 20.

Students entering the Plastics and Polymer Engineering Technology program must have a high school diploma with a minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA along with an 18 ACT composite and a math sub-score of 24 or 950 SAT16 Total and a SAT16 math sub-score of 580 (MATH 120 placement).

Students close to the requirements are encouraged to apply and will be reviewed on an individual basis.

It is a benefit to have at least a year of high school chemistry and computer aided design exposure.

If requirements fall short, the program will advise students to get qualified for program entry.

**General Education Requirements**

All University General Education requirements for an Associate’s degree is here

Please consult this link for a complete listing of General Education Electives.

Consult the Required Course above or program advisor for program specific General Education requirements.

**Graduation Requirements**

The Plastics and Polymer Engineering Technology program at Ferris leads to a Bachelor's degree in Plastics and/or Rubber Engineering Technology, or allow the student to gain advanced entry-level employment in the polymer industry.

Students must

- maintain a 2.00 cumulative FSU GPA
- have 15 credits of Ferris classes (FSU Residency requirement)
- have a minimum 60 total credits to earn an associate degree
- complete all general education requirements as outlined on the General Education website

**More Information**

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Big Rapids, MI 49307-2277
Phone: 231-591-2640
ADA compliant checksheets are being developed for the 2019-2020 Catalog. If you would like to request an ADA compliant checksheet before the 19-20 catalog is published, please send your request to: FSUCurriculum@ferris.edu