SELF Program Application Information

For First-Year Students Entering in Fall 2019

Eligibility

- The SELF Program strives to develop goal-oriented engineering and computing graduates who possess the business, interpersonal and entrepreneurial skills to guide the technology corporations of tomorrow.
    - Prospective students (incoming freshmen) must be eligible for admission to the KU School of Engineering.
    - Complete and submit all application materials by the final deadline of December 1, 2018.
    - Applicants give permission to the selection committee to review all application materials and contact references.
    - Applicants must be willing to visit the campus and participate in interviews and other assessment methods employed as part of the selection process in early February 2019.
    - Applicants understand and accept the [responsibilities as a SELF Fellow](#).
- In the student's application, the committee will look for evidence of:
    - Leadership activitie s, as evidenced through participation in school or community organizations,
    - Extracurricular achievements (student projects, volunteering, study abroad, athletics, internships, etc.) that speak to a student's potential to meet the vision of the SELF Program,
    - A defined and clear commitment to pursue a career in engineering,
    - The student's attributes and leadership experiences as shown through recommendations.

Applying

- Interested students are encouraged to apply via the University's Application for Undergraduate Admissions
    - The application should ask eligible students "Would you like to be considered for the SELF Fellowship program?"
    - To apply, select "Yes"
- If students choose not to apply via the Undergraduate Application or are not given the opportunity, they may still apply via the [web application](#) here: (https://engr.ku.edu/self-program-application-freshmen).
- **Applications are treated the same regardless of their origin. Applicants only need to submit their materials via one of the processes above.**

Application Materials

- Essay Response
    - Respond to one of the following essay questions. Your essay will be evaluated for the quality of your writing and your ability to provide a focused response to the question you choose. Your response should demonstrate intellectual curiosity and academic rigor, and should be thoughtful, well-organized and free of grammatical and spelling errors. Please limit your response to 500 words.
        - a) Give us your top five. Elaborate.

      b) Consider a time when you strongly held a position, then changed your mind. How did you come to your original stance and how did it change?

      c) The University of Kansas cultivates visionaries who contribute to local and global communities. Discuss your passion and why it's important to you.

- Short Answer
  - The SELF Program's primary goal is to develop passionate future engineering leaders in business, industry, and entrepreneurship. Keeping that in mind, tell us why you are interested in becoming a SELF Fellow and what you feel you would contribute. Limit your response to 500 words.

- Resume
  - Submit a resume focused on your involvements and achievements outside the classroom. Be thorough – include your participation in activities such as clubs, sports, jobs, volunteering, and any additional co-curricular involvements.
  - Candidates are considered without regard to name, GPA, high school rank, AP credits, ACT scores, or SAT scores. Therefore, do not include these elements in the resume submitted.
  - Resumes should be submitted in PDF format and should not include any special characters in the file name.

- Professional Recommendations
  - Candidates should identify **three** appropriate individuals to submit a recommendation on your behalf. References must know you in a professional or educational manner (i.e. teacher, counselor, coach, principal, employer) and be able to evaluate you on your performance **outside the classroom.** Family members should not serve as references. **All applicants to the SELF Program are required to submit three references.**
  - Submit a [Reference Request Form](https://engr.ku.edu/self-program-reference-request-form) for your **three references** on our website: https://engr.ku.edu/self-program-reference-request-form. Once this form is submitted, your references will immediately receive an email with instructions on how to submit an online recommendation. **It is your responsibility to ensure that your references receive that email and submit their recommendation on or before December 1, 2018.** It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all application materials and recommendations are submitted on or before December 1, 2018.
  - If applying via the SELF website, applicants will receive a confirmation e-mail after submitting the form. Due to the volume of applications received, program administrators may not be able to provide further confirmation of receipt of the online application and recommendations. If you have questions about the application process, please contact Adam Smith, adam.smith@ku.edu or (785) 864-7858.

Applications and recommendation forms and answers must be submitted on or before December 1, 2018. Strong candidates will be invited to interviews with committee members in early February 2019. Following interviews, about 30 students will be chosen to take part in the SELF Program at the start of the fall semester. All applicants will be notified of their status by the end of February 2019.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Madison A. and Lila Self Engineering Leadership Fellows Program (the "SELF Program") is to develop passionate engineering and computer science graduates who are strongly goal-oriented and who bring the business skills and vision needed to guide the technology-based corporations of tomorrow. The SELF Program will recruit, select and financially support students at the University of Kansas and administer to them an ongoing four-year personal development program that leads to a continuing supply of exceptional graduates at the bachelor of science level. By active participation in the program, the students will expand and refine their leadership, managerial, business, interpersonal, entrepreneurial, communication and engineering skills through mentoring, coursework, seminars and leadership opportunities. Graduates from the SELF Program will possess the personal attributes needed to become effective leaders who are motivated to make a real difference during their careers.

The SELF Program was made possible through a generous donation to the KU Endowment by Madison A. and Lila Self. The Selfs established the program with the intent that it makes a difference in the lives of students who will then rise to make a notable difference in the world. Madison "Al" Self was a 1943 KU chemical engineering graduate, successful businessman and recipient of the School of Engineering's Distinguished Engineering Service Award in 2000. The Selfs, native Kansans who met at KU, were long time and generous supporters of the university. Both passed away in 2013.