The Department of Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University offers a doctoral program for students with technical backgrounds that addresses policy issues in which science and engineering are of central importance. We are a highly interdisciplinary program, approaching critical problems with teams of faculty and students who contribute a variety of skills, insights and methods from different disciplines.

Our work influences how others think about and research tough policy issues, as well as how decision makers develop and implement policy in government agencies, corporations and non-government organizations in the US and internationally.

**Research Areas**

- **Risk Analysis and Risk Communication**
  Risk-related work in the department ranges from the analysis of new or underappreciated risks to studies of public perceptions and valuation, how best to improve public understanding of risks, how to facilitate public participation in risk-related decision making, and how to improve the management and regulation of risks.

- **Information and Communication Technology and Policy**
  The Information and Communication Research Program in EPP is probably the strongest research group in the country working on the policy aspects of advanced telecommunications and information technologies. New computer and information technologies are turning traditional telecommunications on its head.

- **Energy and Environmental Systems**
  The department has assembled one of the strongest groups in the world engaged in policy studies of energy and environmental systems. While some of the work involves single investigators or small groups, much of it is conducted as part of the activities of various Research Centers affiliated with the department.

- **Managing the Risks of Terror and Weapons of Mass Destruction**
  While terrorism topics involve technical issues, they also involve important social and behavioral dimensions. One of the strengths of the Department of Engineering and Public Policy is that it combines faculty with deep technical expertise with outstanding faculty in behavioral social science.

- **Technical Innovation**
  EPP research on technical innovation focuses on the role of government in technology development, the effect of location on the competitiveness of new technologies, sustainability and entrepreneurship in emerging economies, technological and organizational dimensions of innovation, management of research and development, and public policy strategies for new technology commercialization.

**The Program**

Our principal PhD program in Engineering & Public Policy requires a rigorous program of courses and research accomplishment. Our research advances how engineering policy problems are formulated, solved and interpreted for policy insight and development.

The program includes a series of core classes on fundamental approaches and methods for engineering and public policy; as well as classes in statistics and economics; electives in engineering, sciences, mathematics and the social sciences. Research efforts begin early in the academic program with the first journal-quality research paper at the third semester, and continue through the development of subsequent papers and the Ph.D. thesis.
Engineering & Public Policy Graduate Students...

Are engineers, scientists and mathematicians adept in technical areas that affect social and policy issues nationally and internationally in the environment, energy, risk, regulation, information technology, Internet commerce and security, telecommunications, engineering education, technology development and exchange, or economic development.

Recognize that the technical details matter in many policy issues, and wish to obtain or enhance advanced disciplinary skills in engineering and science.

Understand that the technical details are not all that matters, and want to learn and apply knowledge and methods in the social and behavioral sciences, economics, political science and law.

Our graduates work in world-class organizations

**Academia**
- University of Alaska
- UC Berkeley
- University of Calgary
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Católica University (Portugal)
- University of Colorado
- Colorado State University
- Concordia University
- Cornell University
- University of Delaware
- Drexel University
- Duke University
- EPIC (University of Chicago)
- Erasmus University
- University of Florida
- George Mason University
- George Washington University
- Harvard University
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of Illinois
- Indiana University
- University of Maine
- University of Maryland
- Michigan State University
- University of Minnesota
- North Carolina State University
- Peking University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania State University
- University of Pittsburgh
- Princeton University
- University of Portland
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Salen State University
- Shady Side Academy
- Singapore (several)
- Smith College
- Stanford University
- State University of New York
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- University of Toronto
- Tsinghua University
- University of British Columbia
- UC (several)
- UCLA
- U.C. San Diego
- U.C. Santa Barbara
- U.C. London
- USC
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Virginia
- University of Vermont
- Washington University
- University of Waterloo
- Yale University

**Industry**
- Aetna
- AT&T
- AES Energy Storage
- BAE Systems
- The Brattle Group
- CLEAResult
- Compaq
- CONSOL
- Customized Energy Solutions
- CVS
- DC Energy
- EarthSpark
- International
- DNV GL
- EADS
- Eaton
- Facebook
- Fuel Tech
- Gates Foundation
- Genentech
- GE
- Google
- Huawei
- IIT Bombay
- IBM
- Kema
- LDH Energy
- Lucent
- MasterCard
- Meridian Energy
- Microsoft
- NERC
- New England Financial
- NiSource Corporation
- Philips Health Care
- PJM Interconnection
- Raytheon
- SAIC Energy
- Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC
- Tesla
- Tetra Tech
- TVA
- ViaSat
- Weilspring
- Westinghouse
- Windward
- Environmental LLC
- World Resources Institute
- Worley Parsons
- Customized Energy Solutions
- Lumina Systems

**Government, Labs, NGOs, and Consulting**
- ABS Consulting
- Army Corps of Engineers
- State of Alaska
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- Boston E&E
- Brattle Group
- Brooking's Institution
- U.S. Army
- California Air Resources Board
- Carlyle Group
- Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program
- Congressional Research Service
- Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Federal Communications Commission
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- ICANN
- IASA (Australia)
- McKinsey and Company
- LBNL (USA)
- MITRE Corporation
- National Center for Atmospheric Research
- Naval Air Warfare Center Research National Institute of Standards and Technology
- NOAA's Earth Systems Research Laboratory
- NREL (USA)
- Noblis
- OMB
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- National Library of Congress
- RAND
- SAIC Inc
- S&T Policy Institute
- SRI International
- NOAA's Earth Systems Research Laboratory
- NREL (USA)
- Noblis
- OMB
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- National Library of Congress
- RAND
- SAIC Inc
- S&T Policy Institute
- SRI International
- National lab and government positions in Chile, China, EU, IFA, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, and the United Nations

Carnegie Mellon University
Engineering & Public Policy

Fast Facts

The department was established in 1976
As of 2015, we have graduated more than 800 undergraduates and 280 PhDs
The PhD students are 63% U.S. Nationals, 30% women, and 13% U.S. minorities
Sixty percent of graduates are in think tanks, government and the private sector. Over 30% hold academic jobs.

EPP faculty hold joint appointments with other departments across Carnegie Mellon, and include fellows in professional societies as well as members of the National Academy of the Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine

Faculty routinely serve on, and chair, many government and industry advisory boards

We maintain an office in Washington D.C. to facilitate interaction between students, faculty, and decision-makers.