Graduate Programs

TRANSPORTATION

Led by MIT’s Mobility Initiative, the Institute’s cross-disciplinary graduate program in transportation provides a variety of graduate degrees for students interested in transportation studies and research. Students choose from a wide range of introductory and advanced subjects related to transportation and engage with real-world projects and challenges to build an education that prepares them to be the leader’s of tomorrow’s transportation system.

Master of Science in Transportation
The Master of Science in Transportation (M.S.T.) degree program emphasizes the complexity of transportation, lying at the intersection of technology, operations, planning, management, and policy-making. The program is interdepartmental, drawing on coursework, faculty, and research staff from across MIT. During the two-year program, students work closely with a research advisor to select an individually-designed area of focus within the realm of transportation. Requirements include coursework across different aspects of transportation, as well as specialized work in the designated area of choice.

Interdepartmental Doctoral Program in Transportation
The interdepartmental doctoral program in transportation provides a structured and follow-on doctoral program for students enrolled in MIT’s Master of Science in Transportation program or other transportation-related masters degree programs at MIT or elsewhere. The interdepartmental structure of the program allows students greater flexibility in developing individual programs of study that cross both disciplinary and departmental lines. The program is administered by the Transportation Education Committee, a faculty committee responsible for admissions and oversight of program requirements.

To apply, visit mmi.mit.edu/education

Mobility and transportation are at the dawn of profound change with an unprecedented combination of new technologies meeting new—and evolving—priorities. The newly founded MIT Mobility Initiative (MMI) serves to unite mobility-related research across MIT to help drive these necessary changes in the long-term trajectory of sustainable mobility development. As part of the Initiative, MIT’s storied transportation education program offers opportunities to address the major challenges facing transportation today, through real-world partnerships, hands-on projects, entrepreneurship and more.
Mobility systems and operations are becoming ever more complex with the introduction of new technologies and new values. MIT’s wide array of research addresses the systems-level challenges as well as the myriad different transport phenomena and their interactions that promise to define our mobility system for generations to come.

Developments in computation and analytics are allowing us to better understand and optimize systems and flows to better serve needs and to improve efficiency; and they have also opened the door for the introduction of new forms of mobility that can change the conceptualization of the relationship itself between point A and point B.

Today’s unprecedented combination of new technologies is meeting evolving priorities and objectives, ranging from decarbonization to public health. The timeframe for addressing these challenges is short in a system with fixed assets. MIT researchers are leading the way in innovative economic, policy, and design strategies to help shape and adapt these critical systems.