The electrical and computer engineering (ECE) department at the University of Houston Cullen College of Engineering has been growing in size, raising its standards, and climbing national rankings for its world-class academic programs.

Now, the Cullen College’s ECE department can add another bragging point to its long list of achievements and successes: the department has been named one of the top 50 “great affordable colleges for computer science and engineering” by Great Value Colleges, a premier website for offering data, program rankings and research on America’s best colleges and universities.

In order to determine which schools made the cut as a top 50 great affordable college, Great Value Colleges combined each of the ECE department’s rankings from US News and World Report with data on the adjusted average tuition for each college. Out of the 111 colleges on the US News and World Report list of top 100 engineering programs and top 100 computer science programs, only the top 50 highest-ranked and least expensive programs made the cut.

The Cullen College’s ECE department was ranked fifth in the Southwest region for best and most affordable computer science and engineering programs, beating out both the University of Texas – Dallas and the University of Texas – Austin.

Great Value Colleges cited the college’s strong interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate programs in areas such as subsea, aerospace, materials, and computers and systems engineering as one of the biggest benefits of obtaining an engineering degree at the Cullen College. Moreover, the article describes the Cullen College’s ever-growing research expenditures (which are now topping $24 million) and long list of highly-active research centers, institutes, and industry consortiums as factors which set the department apart from other ECE programs in the region.

The UH Cullen College of Engineering is currently ranked as one of the top 100 engineering colleges (#78) in
the country. The college’s ECE department has been on the move for quite some time, climbing the National Research Council’s Ph.D. program rankings in recent years to land at their current position of 56th out of 126 programs.

But perhaps what truly sets the Cullen College’s ECE department apart is the affordable price for its world-class education. In-state tuition to attend the UH Cullen College of Engineering tops off at about $8,401, with most students paying an average tuition of $7,618 thanks to the university’s many institutional grants and scholarships. Additional scholarships are also available through the ECE department itself (learn more here).

The electrical and computer engineering department at the Cullen College prides itself on ensuring that all students who graduate from the program are ready to work in industry, academia, or as researchers as soon as they obtain their degrees. Students are expected to perform high-level laboratory research beginning in their freshman year as undergraduates and to maintain jobs, internships and fellowships with local companies throughout their academic careers within the Cullen College. Thanks to the college’s dedicated Engineering Career Center, students are easily connected with jobs and internships at Houston-area companies through the bi-annual engineering career fairs, at which hundreds of companies come to the UH campus to recruit the Cullen College’s highly-skilled engineering graduates.

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