

Graduate and Professional School

Many students are interested in continuing their education at graduate or professional school after earning their bachelor's degree. Continuing your education may be a great or even necessary choice for you after graduation, but there are many ways in which the application process for graduate school differs from undergraduate. Follow the checklists below to ensure you are fully prepared to apply and attend graduate school

Finding the Right Program

- Are your career goals and interests attainable with the education and experience this program will give you?
- Are your application materials and experiences competitive enough to have a good chance of acceptance into this program?
- Is this program affordable enough for you to feel financially comfortable enough to attend?
- Are there scholarships available that can make this program more financially feasible for you?
- What research does the faculty involved with this program conduct and is it in line with your interests?
- Does this program offer chances to develop professional connections through internships or other experiences?
- What are the career outcomes of previous graduates who attended this program?
- What is the length of this program?
- How affordable is the area in and around the location of this program?
- Is this quality of this program held in high regard by professionals in the field?

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Application Tips and Checklist

- What are the deadlines for application materials for this program?
- Are there multiple application deadlines for this program?
- How many and what type of references does this program require?
- What length and format does this program require for your personal statement?
- Does this program require any type of specific testing for admission?
- Have you revised and updated your résumé or CV to match best with the program you are applying for?
- Have you developed a list of a minimum of 5 programs you are interested in and willing to apply for?
- Have you spoken with your academic advisor and professors in your field of interest to discuss advice and connections for graduate programs?
- Have you contacted your references at least three months before their deadline to request a letter of recommendation and share with them any documents they may need to aid in their reference writing?
- Have you researched the program's goals and research interests on the institution's website to understand how well you will fit in the program and how favorably you will be viewed in the application process?
- Have you prepared financially to pay the application fees that may be required by institutions?
- Have you researched the prerequisite course requirements of this program?