

Suggested timetable for applications

It is important to have a plan for completing the application requirements. Prepare a timetable with specific deadlines. The graduate admissions or funding deadlines may differ from the graduate program deadline. Be sure that you apply in time to receive full consideration for funding packages.

Summer before your senior year

- Begin to draft a personal statement of your academic and professional goals.
- Explore graduate programs. Become familiar with faculty interests, entrance requirements, and deadlines.
- Contact graduate programs that interest you and request information.
- Review for the GRE. Download FREE GRE PowerPrep software from the GRE web site, gre.org.

Hint: Even if your prospective program does not require the GRE, national fellowships and other funding sources may request GRE scores.

September

- Share your personal statement with professors you know. Ask their advice about which graduate programs you might consider.
- Consult your campus writing center to review your statements.
- Narrow your graduate program choices.
- Register to take the GRE.

October

- Take the GRE.
- Revise your personal statement, tailoring it to your chosen graduate programs.
- Order transcripts.

November

- Download application forms and complete a draft. Review and edit your drafts.
- Submit completed application forms.
- Ask faculty for recommendations. Give them specific information about deadlines and follow up to ensure that they meet the deadline.

December

- Submit your applications.
- Note: Letters of admission are sent on a rolling basis beginning in February.

January

- Follow up to ensure that supporting documents were received.

February

- Visit your prospective programs, if possible.

March

- Submit a FAFSA. Even if you expect to receive funding, it is good to have other options—just in case.

April 1

- You should receive admissions letters by this date.

April 15

- You must accept or decline offers of admission.