

# Timeline for Applying to Grad School

## - Senior Year -

Its best to start early if you're planning to apply to graduate school — it will increase your odds of being admitted. Fall of your senior year is the time to be sure everything is in order and submitted on time!

- Ensure you know how to apply for each school and have all the materials needed.
- Finalize essays and personal statements for each application.
- Request letters of recommendation from faculty - provide reference-writers with your resume, personal statement, proper forms, adequate time to write the letters, and directions for handling the letters. Gather recommendations from someone who has seen you work and someone who has seen you study.
- Consider doing a mock interview prior to professional school admissions interviews. You can set up mock interview with a member of the Career and Personal Development team by logging into Handshake and scheduling an appointment.
- Take the required standardized tests.
- Complete the applications - cutting and pasting information from word documents helps in ensuring there are no typing errors. Be sure to proofread before sending.
- Order transcripts from the Registrar's Office - include fall semester grades if available prior to the deadline.
- By spring of your senior year, many application deadlines have passed. Don't wait until the final deadline to submit your application! This is the time to await word on acceptance and finalize financing.
- Complete financial aid forms - you may need to include a copy of your income tax return so consider getting that done early.
- Contact schools to be sure your application was submitted if you haven't received notice and verify the timeline for acceptance.
- Write thank you notes to the many people who have assisted you in the application process.



Remember: you can meet with a member of the Career and Personal Development team to get personalized support with the graduate school process, including personal statement review. You can schedule an appointment by logging into **Handshake**.

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