

GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION TIMELINE

The process should begin at least *one year* before you plan to begin graduate school.

Summer:

- Write a draft of your statement of purpose
 - This document can be the determining factor in the admission process
 - Writing quality and clarity professional goals are key
- Review sources about graduate institutions and departments

September:

- Meet faculty to discuss the statement of purpose and request letters of recommendation
- Register for requisite admissions tests
- Request information and applications on fellowships

October:

- Take admissions tests
- Request graduate school applications

November:

- Request transcripts to be sent before the deadline!

December:

- Complete the graduate school applications (in draft form first)
- Provide recommenders the forms (if any) or stamped envelopes in which they should send their letters
 - Copies of the personal statement might also be helpful

February:

- Determine the possibility of visiting the program(s)
- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) if applicable

April:

- If necessary, file a copy of the federal tax return if applying for need-based aid