

# Timetable for Applying to Graduate School

Modified article by Tara Kuther, Ph.D., About.com Guide

## Junior Year (fall or spring): Identify schools and gather applications

Explore your area(s) of interest by talking with your faculty to learn about programs and make contacts.

View programs posted on your CareerLink account under Graduate/Professional Schools (Employer Category)

Develop your list of prospective schools, and pick a professor or two from each that mirror your interests.

Search for admission events or special events (i.e. Graduate Research Symposiums) to attend.

Gather [graduate program](#) brochures and narrow your choices.

Take a free practice test. Your score will help you determine how much preparation you'll need. Study/prep.

## Summer (Senior Year): Take test and prepare resume or CV and drafts of personal statement

Take the necessary [standardized tests](#) for admissions. The [GRE](#), [MCAT](#), [GMAT](#), [LSAT](#), or [DAT](#)

Visit schools and programs

Carefully examine each of the [program applications](#). Note any questions or essay topics.

Consider which faculty members to ask for [letters of recommendation](#). Don't wait until the last minute.

Prepare your resume or CV to give to faculty (visit Academic & Career Planning for assistance)

Write SEVERAL drafts of your personal statements (Essays, Statement of Purpose, etc.). Ask ACP to review.

## September/October: Appointments with faculty for recommendations (earlier the better)

Check and record the due date for each application. Create an Excel spreadsheet to organize all deadlines!

Ask your faculty member or a career counselor to read your essays and provide feedback. Take their advice!

Ask faculty for [letters of recommendation](#) (Ask faculty for letters of recommendation)

