

Applying to Graduate School and Professional Studies: Checklist for What I Need to Know

Have I considered the following questions before applying to graduate school or professional studies?

- What are my career and learning objectives?
- What is my motivation for pursuing further education?
- How soon do I want to start my further education journey? Do I want to start immediately after my undergraduate degree?
- Do I have the personal and financial support to handle the busy schedule of graduate school or professional studies?
- Am I aware of the labour market information associated with my career goal?
- Is my career goal regulated (depending on where I work)? If so, what is the name of the regulatory body?
- Does my career goal require the completion of a specific accredited program?
- Are there information sessions I can attend to learn more about potential programs?
- Have I reviewed the admission websites of potential programs?

Have I considered the following admission criteria when researching programs?

- Minimum admission average
- How an admission average is calculated
- Academic course prerequisites, minimum grade requirements, and/or a certain type of degree in a specific subject area
- Full course load standard
- Experiential requirements (minimum hours of teaching, research, laboratory, job shadowing, or specific industry experience, etc.)
- Securing a faculty supervisor
- Academic and/or professional references
- Admission tests (e.g., LSAT, GMAT, MCAT, DAT, GRE, etc.)
- Personal statement or statement of intent
- Autobiographical sketch
- Resume or academic CV
- Admission interview(s) (e.g., Multiple Mini Interviews)
- Citizenship status and location of residency

Have I confirmed the following program factors?

- Application deadline(s), how to apply, available start date(s), and program length(s)
- Options for full-time studies, in-person or online learning, and single or dual degree completion
- Admission statistics, accreditation status, class sizes, school reputation, advanced standing, and on/off campus amenities
- Funding, housing, career outcomes, student supports, co-op/internship programs, curriculum, and faculty research areas