



VANDERBILT  
UNIVERSITY

| Career Center

## **GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION BASICS**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Most graduate programs require 2-3 recommendations. Have you thought of who and how to ask for yours?

### **ESSAYS**

There are specific requirements and elements review committees look for in your personal essays. How are you building these documents?

### **TEST SCORES**

Do you know which, if any, entrance exam you need to take for your intended program? How will you prepare? Did you know some programs will waive entrance exams based on strong GPA or other qualifications?

### **TRANSCRIPTS**

You will be required to submit transcripts from each academic institution you have attended. Do you know how to request those?

### **ACADEMIC COURSES**

Do you meet all the academic requirements for your program of choice? This can range from GPA requirements to specific courses.

### **EXPERIENCE**

How will you market your experience to make yourself a stronger candidate? Some programs prefer concentration on research while others give weight to volunteering and student leadership. Do you know how to speak to your key accomplishments?

For assistance in your graduate school planning and application, check out additional resources on the Career Center website and schedule an appointment today with your career coach.