



QUESTIONS TO ASK GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

PROGRAM DETAILS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much emphasis is put on research, teaching, or professional experience? • Are assistantships available in the department or on-campus? What is the best way to find those? • With what professionally related activities are students involved? • What facilities are available for grad students (maybe more thinking about what support is out there for grad students—can they use the career center? Health services? Mental health? Rec center?)
ADMISSIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What % of students are accepted? Waitlisted? • Can I defer admission? Under what circumstances?
ACADEMICS / FACULTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How available are faculty to the students? • How long does it typically take to graduate? • Why do students leave the program? • What's available to help students do research or participate in internships, etc. • What's the student to faculty ratio for my program? • What is the academic advising process? • How large are the classes? Are courses offered regularly? • What kind of flexibility is there in scheduling? • What is the workload associated with departmental assistantships? • What is the students' impression of the faculty's commitment to mentoring students?
FUNDING/COSTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's the department's history with funding its students throughout their studies? • Is funding available year round? • What are the hidden costs (insurance, conferences, etc) • Is there support for graduate students to attend conferences? • What is the cost of living? • Are there any application fee waivers? If so how do I apply for them?
FINANCIAL AID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's the average financial aid package? • What is the typical loan/grant breakdown? • What percentage of students receive scholarships?
STUDENT LIFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there residential Grad school housing? If not, does the university assist students with finding housing or roommate matching? • How do new grad students form their social groups? What are some of the most popular extracurriculars? • How accessible and helpful is health services? • What facilities/resources are available for grad students? Career Center, Rec Center, etc.
CAREER OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where are past students employed? • How easy is it to find summer jobs/other kinds of work? • How engaged/impactful is the school's alumni association? Are there structured networking opportunities? • What percentage of graduates gain employment in their field immediately upon graduation? Within 3-6 months? Which organizations hire graduates? Where are the employers located?