**Graduate School Information**

Is graduate school in your future? If you have a clear sense of what career you want to pursue and if an advanced degree is required for entry into the field, then graduate school is for you. If you are unsure, you can further explore your graduate school options by utilizing some of the resources on this page.

Resources are available on campus to help you (1) research the graduate programs available for your area of interest, (2) learn about a specific college or university, and (3) prepare for graduate admissions tests. Begin by visiting your Career Resource Library located in the Academic Support Center and the reference section in our library. Then check with your academic department to see if they maintain graduate school resources.

**Graduate Admissions Test Information**

Graduate admissions standards vary by program and region; however, most graduate programs require an admissions test. The tests vary by type of graduate study.

Bulletins of information on graduate school and professional admissions test are available in the Academic Support Center:

- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT)
- Law School Admission Test (LSAT)
- Miller Analogies Test (MAT)

**Books and Software on Test Preparation**

Books to help you prepare for the various graduate admissions tests are available in Robert F. Kidd Library. In addition, you can purchase guides for test preparation at retail stores such as Barnes & Noble, Waldenbooks, or B. Dalton. Barron's publishes an educational series; you may want to check out their Barron's How to Prepare Books (e.g., Barron's How to Prepare for the Graduate Record Examination, Barron's How to Prepare for the Law School Admission Test). In addition, many book publishers also have "How to Prepare" software available.

**Financing Graduate School**

The Financial Aid Office offers the following advice:

- Acquire catalogs from each of the schools you are considering.
- Read each financial aid section, pay close attention to the financial aid forms needed, and underline important deadlines.
- Determine if a needs analysis is required and submit the forms to the appropriate processor by the deadline.
- Write to your prospective graduate department directly to inquire about scholarships, fellowships, or assistantships they administer.
• Talk with the department faculty to see if anyone from last year's class is attending the institution of your choice. Call or write those students and ask them how they are paying for school.
• If you have any questions, call the graduate, law, or medical school financial aid office directly.
• Approach the graduate school application process as if your career depends on it. It does!

**Graduate School Information Sites**

The following sites offer information about the graduate school application process and provide links to specific graduate schools.

http://www.petersons.com
This site provides some basic information about the graduate programs that a college or university offers. Additional information is available in Peterson's Guides to Graduate Study

http://www.gmat.org/
This site provides information about graduate programs in business and the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT)

http://www.gradschools.com
This site is a "yellow pages" for graduate schools

**Graduate School Application Timeline**

Six Months Prior to Applying

- Research areas of interest, institutions and programs
- Talk to advisors about the application requirements
- Prepare and register for appropriate admissions tests
- Research scholarships, financial aid, graduate assistantships
- If necessary, obtain letters of recommendation

Three Months Prior to Applying

- Secure application materials
- Take admission tests
- Write application essay
- Become knowledgeable on application deadlines and admissions policies
Fall, a Year before Graduating

- Obtain letters of recommendation
- Take admission tests if you have not already taken them
- Send in applications

Spring, Graduation Semester

- Complete FAFSA and Financial Aid paperwork
- Check with institution prior to deadline to make sure your file is complete
- Visit accepting institutions