

**GOAL:** *Develop a strategy to prepare for graduate school*

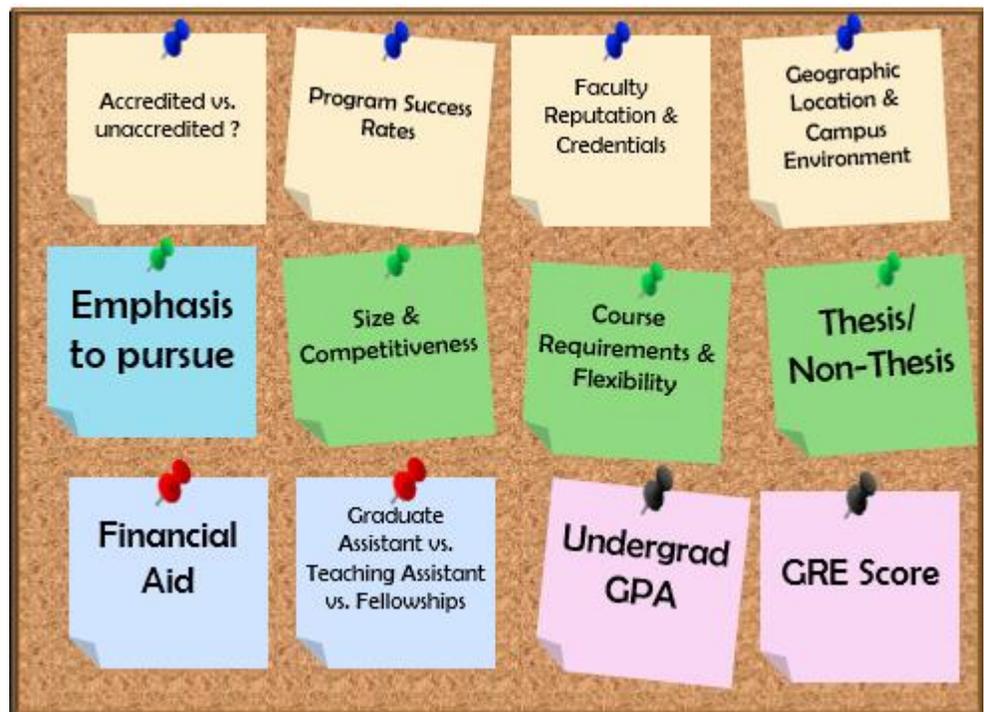
- **Consider whether or not a graduate degree is necessary or preferred in your chosen profession.**
- **Graduate schools differ from undergraduate programs, requiring a greater time commitment, higher level of academic performance and financial investment.**
- **KNOW DEADLINES and PLAN by working backwards in order to properly plan each step in the process. Allow yourself plenty of time to complete each step of the process in a timely fashion.**

## Selecting a Graduate School

When considering a graduate school and program **RESEARCH** to determine if and which school aligns with your *career goals* and the needs of your *chosen profession!*

There are a few things to look into when considering an investment in a graduate program:

- What is the school and program like?
- What is expected of students?
- What is the reputation of the program?
- How successful are graduates?
- What are the standards for admittance and retention?
- How much will a degree cost and how will you pay for it?



After evaluating your research, narrow down your options to your top choices. Then, schedule campus visits to see if the school is a good fit for you. Finally, apply to your top choices.

# OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES GRADUATE SCHOOL PREPARATION



## Applying for Graduate School

A typical graduate school application requires a number of materials. Be sure to pay attention to all requirements and supply them to the committee or your application will not be considered.

**Transcripts** are your official records of coursework taken at an institution. Official copies are provided by the Registrar, and will be required to make your application complete. Be sure to provide enough time for processing to meet application deadlines.

**Application forms** include pages where you list personal information relevant to your education. Most schools prefer online applications, but some portions may be submitted on paper.

**Application fees** are almost always part of the application process, ranging from \$50 to \$150 or more per school. These fees typically are not refundable.

**Academic resumes/CVs** highlight your experiences related to your field. Focus on importance on research or academic experiences that show how you are a perfect candidate for admission.



June 12, 2014

Dear Review Committee,

I am writing this recommendation for Southeast Missouri State University all athletic events and generating content. His cartwheel, flip, and other mascot as other institution

I would highly recommend Rowd bring excitement, enthusiasm, an mascot in your program.

Sincerely,

Recommending Person  
Department of Athletics

3420 Dando Circle #303  
Kennett, MO 64649

Full-time psychology student with  
• Finished a 2-4 year psychology program  
• House of membership in Psi Chi for  
• Entrepreneurial interest in therapy  
• Research experience in working

Bachelor of A  
Current GPA: 3.5  
Related Course Work: If  
Psychology: Absent  
General Psy  
Involvement: Attended  
class presentations on I  
Attendance of US  
Study Abroad Education  
Summer Coursework:

**Personal Statement**

When I first interested in medicine, I was attracted by the potential to blend clinical research with the excitement of research to solve the most complex of human medicine and the intellectual aspects that come with a more general environment. I had the advantage of attending a school that was well known for its work with medicine, but the appreciation for the field was not limited to the medical field. I had the opportunity to work with a research laboratory and to pursue a career in research and teaching. My research in psychology and neuroscience, and my experience in research and teaching, have provided me with a strong foundation in research and teaching. My research in psychology and neuroscience, and my experience in research and teaching, have provided me with a strong foundation in research and teaching.

**Standardized Test Scores** such as the GRE may be required for admission. Law, medical and business schools require different exams. Take tests early (Spring or Summer before you apply) to ensure scores arrive before admission deadlines.

**Letters of Recommendation** provide the program with insight into you as a person. These are usually written by professors, whom you know well and who can speak to your abilities and academic goals. Make sure to get permission in advance and provide plenty of advance notice for completion.

**Personal Statement or Essay** is your opportunity to speak up for yourself. Consider your qualities and who will be reading your statement. Focus on your educational and occupational experiences that led you to apply, but don't rely only on emotional motivation (such as "I want to help people"). If the program requires an essay on a specific topic, make sure you provide what they are asking for in your statement.