APPLYING FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL

Know Your Goals

My career goals are...

Graduate school will help because...

Know Your Industry

- Informational interviews
- Ask a faculty member
- Handshake- career.colostate.edu
- LinkedIn- linkedin.com
- Connecting Colorado- connectingcolorado.com
- ONet- onetonline.org

Know the Process

- Admission Requirements
- Program Faculty Reputation
- Program Content
- Cost
- Program Culture
- Timeline

Exam Information

Graduate schools use different tests for admission, so research which test each school you're applying for requires. Scores on these tests are used for admission, fellowships, grants, and assistantships.

Graduate Record Exam (GRE): www.ets.org/gre

- Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT)
- Miller Analogies Test (MAT)
- The Law School Admission Test (LSAT)
- Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

Application Timeline

Immediately:

- Maintain highest GPA possible
- Gain relevant field and research experience
- Get to know your faculty members

Junior Year:

- Research graduate programs and potential faculty advisors
- Send out information requests to schools
- Determine application procedures, exam requirments and deadlines
- Study for and possibly take entrance exams
- Sign up for additional classes you may need for senior year

Senior Year:
Sep/Oct

- Request letters of recommendation from faculty
- Take required entrance exams
- Contact perspective faculty advisors
- Start preparing application materials
- Inquire about assistantships and research other financial aid possibilities

Nov/Dec

- Mail applications (depends on program)
- Order Transcripts
- Apply for assistantships, fellowships and grants

Jan/Feb/Mar

- Arrange school visits and schedule an interview (if applicable)

Keeping Track of Application Details

School	*Deadline*	*GPA*	*Test Scores*	*Cost*	*#Of Letters*	*Other Details*

Personal Statement: Top 6

1. Showcase your UNIQUE writing skills, interests, goals, and potential
2. Focus on what you bring to the program
3. Strive for depth rather than breadth
4. Be yourself, not the "ideal" applicant
5. Address the school's unique features that interest you
6. Evaluate experiences, rather than describe them