THE GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION & FUNDING
Steps to Graduate School

- Is it right for me?
- Forms of Grad School
- Getting ready
- Applying
- Funding
Is grad school the right choice for me?

- What is your ultimate career goal and what are you doing to pursue it?
- What do you want from your experiences in grad school?
- What have you already done to start your upper level education experiences?
Getting Ready

- Start networking with professors and possible recommendation writers
- Get into research
- Broaden your experiences
- Get into practical applications
- Take classes that you think you will like to narrow down what you want to pursue
- Get into research
Forms of Graduate School

- MBA ($$$$
- JD (patent attorney?)
- MD (completely clinical or research based?)
- MD-PhD (don’t have to front med school tuition)
- PhD vs MS
Applying: Finding the right school

Where do I start?

Gradschools.com

- Search engine by field of study, location, keyword, etc.
- Tips on how to choose the right program
- Curriculum overviews
- Surviving grad school
- Tons of stuff…check it out.
Applying: Finding the right school

- Read department’s research, don’t just go by reputation of the overall institution
- Target specific professors and read their work
- Contact them and express interest in their research
- Ask about funding, space in lab, and contact info for some of their grad students
Applying: Finding the right school

- Ask those grad students about:
  - How is the professor as an advisor
  - What is campus life like
  - How family friendly (etc) is the town
  - Average graduation rate
  - Publishing requirements
  - All the nitty gritty that you can think of
Actually Applying

- Look into prerequisite courses
  - Especially important for MD/PhD programs
  - Often different between institutions offering the same degree
- Look into standardized test score requirements (GRE, MCAT) and prepare accordingly
- What activities does your school of choice put emphasis on
  - Volunteer, Leadership, Clinical, Research
  - Plan ahead and strengthen your resume
Actually Applying

- GRE before October to get reporting in by application deadlines
- Request transcripts early
- Request recommendations early
  - Give each professor/employer a portfolio with a resume, essays on why you want to go, etc.
- Don’t be afraid to talk yourself up
Funding

Purdue Graduate School’s list of Funding

- [https://www.cco.purdue.edu/Student/](https://www.cco.purdue.edu/Student/)
- Go about these the same way you went about the school apps
- Some schools have school specific apps so be sure to search the pages of perspective schools you are applying to
- Apply as you are applying for graduate school
- Deadlines as early as October 31st
Funding: Workshops

- Be proactive
- https://ias.itap.purdue.edu/rgs/wgb_workshop.disp_online_workshop
Q & A Pannel

- What are some of your best experiences, and conversely what are some of your worst experiences in grad school?
- What criteria did you use to choose which school to go to?
- What is your ultimate career goal and what are you doing to pursue it?
- What made you decide to go to graduate school?