

# GRAD SCHOOL FAIR TIPS

## Building Rapport with Grad School Recruiters



Talking with a graduate school recruiter is a key step in exploring your options. Asking thoughtful questions shows genuine interest, helps you learn more about the program and campus culture, and leaves a strong impression.

## QUESTIONS TO ASK

- What are the admission requirements for this program? Application deadline? Prerequisite classes? Required entry exams? Application fee?
- What are the strengths and unique features of this program compared to others?
- Can you describe the faculty's research interests and their availability for student interactions?
- Are there opportunities for financial aid, scholarships, or assistantships for graduate students?
- What is the typical class size, and what is the student-to-faculty ratio? Are classes held in-person, virtually, or asynchronously?
- Can you provide information about internships, co-op programs, or other experiential learning opportunities?
- What career services and support are available to graduate students in terms of job placement and networking?
- What is the alumni network like, and can you share any success stories of recent graduates?
- What are the next steps that I can take to help prepare for the application process?

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## How to Successfully Apply to Graduate School



Applying to graduate school is a significant step in your academic and career journey. Here are **10 tips** to help you navigate the application process successfully!

## 10 TIPS FOR APPLYING TO GRAD SCHOOL

- 1 **Start Early:** Begin the application process well in advance to ensure you have ample time to gather documents, write essays, and meet deadlines.
- 2 **Research Programs:** Find programs that align with your academic and career goals; consider factors like faculty expertise, location, and available resources.
- 3 **Understand Admission Requirements:** Understand all admission requirements, including minimum GPA, standardized test scores (e.g. GRE, GMAT), prerequisite courses, and language proficiency.
- 4 **Request Letters of Recommendation:** Approach professors, employers, or mentors who know your work and can write strong letters of recommendation on your behalf. Provide plenty of notice and necessary information, such as classes you took with them, memorable moments, and a sincere thank you.
- 5 **Personal Statement:** This is a critical part of your application. Clearly state your goals, experiences, and why you're a strong fit for the program.
- 6 **Prepare for Standardized Tests:** If required, consider taking preparatory courses or using study materials. Take standardized tests well in advance of application deadlines.
- 7 **Request Transcripts:** Order official transcripts from all the colleges and universities you've attended, and send them directly to the institutions you're applying to.
- 8 **Proofread and Review:** Carefully review all application materials, checking for errors and ensuring everything is complete.
- 9 **Follow Up:** Track your application's progress and follow up with the graduate admissions office if you have questions or concerns.
- 10 **Ask for Help:** Utilize the Center for Career & Vocation staff to guide and support you along the way. Email us at [careercenter@cui.edu](mailto:careercenter@cui.edu) to learn more.