How to Successfully Navigate the Graduate School Application Process

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- #1 LIS program in the country
- Big Ten Institution
- Central Illinois
- 3 MS programs and 1 Ph.D. in LIS
- 800+ total enrollment
Successfully Navigating the Application Process

- Prepare
- Seek
- Apply

Graduate School Application Process
Prepare: Self-Exploration—why am I interested in graduate school?

- Academic and career interests
- Prior experiences
- Future experiences
- Funding Opportunities
- Full-time or part-time
- MS or Ph.D. program
- Location
- Curriculum
- Diversity
Seek Out Information

- **Virtual**
  - Websites
  - Emails
  - Info sessions
- **On-Campus**
  - Campus visits
  - Graduate fairs
- **Person to person**
  - Conferences
  - Current students
  - Alumni, faculty, staff
Apply—Excel in what you control

• Be aware of application requirements
• Are standardized tests required?
• Are you able to secure an application waiver?
• Letters of recommendation—secure robust and supportive letters
• Statements—customized to program
• Be mindful of deadlines (submit and accept)
• Additional materials for application
Key Takeaway: Know Your Why, So You Can Tell Your Why

Graduate School Application Process

Prepare → Seek → Apply
Questions

Contact Information

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https://ischool.illinois.edu/degrees-programs