

What is the Graduate Admissions Committee looking for?

There is much debate about the utility of standardized indicators in predicting success in a graduate or professional program. We believe that a minimum GRE score of 450 on the verbal section and 500 on the quantitative section are important indicators that you have the basic skills essential for success in our graduate program. Similarly, we believe that a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.75 represents another indicator of your capacity to succeed in our graduate program.

A GRE score or an undergraduate GPA below these thresholds will lead to a closer examination of all application materials. In these cases, it is the responsibility of the applicant to demonstrate that they have the knowledge and skills to be successful in the graduate program despite their GRE score or their undergraduate GPA. For example, an individual might have achieved a 3.2 GPA in the last 60 hours of their undergraduate program.

In the absence of achieved thresholds for both GRE scores and undergraduate GPA, if admission is granted, it will be a provisional admission pending successful completion of 2 courses in the graduate program they are seeking admission to (i.e., a course at 500 level or higher) with a grade of “B” in each course.

Finally, in order to maximize the opportunities for interactions with and guidance from faculty, it is important to have a degree of “fit” between the student’s speciality area interests and those reflected in the areas of expertise of program faculty.

Important application dates

Admission decisions will be made by the Program at three times during the year. For consideration, both the Graduate School and the Program applications must be completed and submitted by these dates. Note also the dates for decisions with regard to assistantships.

October 1

- Completed Program and Graduate School applications for consideration for admission for the spring semester
- Completed Program and Graduate School applications for consideration for a CTE (Career and Technical Education) assistantship for the fall semester

March 1

- Completed Program and Graduate School applications for consideration for admission for the summer or fall semesters
- Completed Program and Graduate School applications for consideration for a CLD (Community and Leadership Development) assistantship for the fall semester

NOTE: Students in the Master’s with Initial Certification part of the program, except in the most unusual of circumstances, will be eligible for a graduate assistantship only for the year in which they are not scheduled to do their student teaching.