

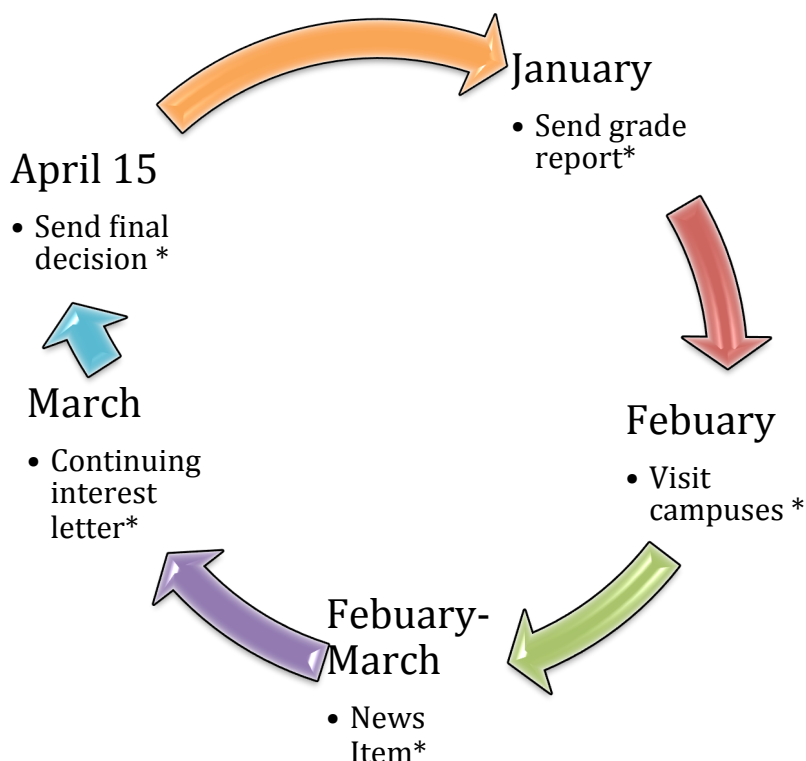
Graduate School Tips & Tricks



Big Data
Discovery & Diversity
THROUGH RESEARCH EDUCATION
ADVANCEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP

How to choose schools to apply for:

- FIT & MATCH!
- Ask faculty
- Look at authors of key articles in your field
- Look for faculty with recent publications
- Look at about 20 graduate programs and then select top 10



*Grade Report

"My fall grades came in rather strong"
List classes, grades, and fall GPA

*Campus Visits

"I am a self supporting student and wanted to ask for some funding for airfare.

*News Item

"I just came to visit your campus and I like it for the following reasons. Also, my paper was just accepted to a journal."

*Continuing Interest Letter

"I have begun to hear from other programs, but haven't heard anything from you. Your program is the best fit and I am eager to hear good news from you. I would not like to be forced to make a decision before I know where I stand with you

*April 15- Final Decision

I have received a significant amount of funding from another school. However, I believe you are the better fit. What can we do?

Concerns about GRE score:

"Please see that my GPA in the sciences, my strong recommendations, and my BD3-REAP research project are better indicators of the kind of work I will be doing in graduate school. The GRE is a broad test and the verbose was archaic and irrelevant to the data science field. "

Additional Tips:

- Never self-select out
- Apply to more schools
- Continue to fix personal statement
- Email more faculty
- Stop beating yourself about GRE
- Believe in yourself! 😊

Do's & Do Not's for Writing Statements:

Do's:

- Graduate level language
- Write with Confidence- "Upon completing a graduate program..."
- Be interesting

Don't:

- Do not talk about your childhood
- Don't talk about a death in family (Catalyst model is OK, but don't drag on visually)
- State you are interested in training development, and mentorship, NOT JUST PhD!
- Do not take our adversity, just keep it small
- Don't denigrate school, neighborhood, faculty members