Sample Timeline

**Junior Year and Senior Summer**
- Determine which type of graduate program best fits your career goals
- Research specific graduate programs of interest. Look at admissions and financial aid applications
- Take required examinations (may also take again in fall)
- Attend the Graduate and Professional School Fair

**Senior Year**

**September**
- Continue researching graduate programs of interest
- Find out when graduate transcripts must be sent and what other materials are required
- Check applications for specific deadlines
- Register for required entrance exams

**October**
- Talk to graduate recruiters visiting the campus or in the area
- If possible, visit the schools in which you are interested. Talk with admissions staff, department faculty, and/or current graduate students
- Request letters of recommendation
- Write personal statement

**November**
- Begin preparing your financial aid application. These are often required at the same time or earlier than admissions applications

**December**
- Some admissions applications might be due this month
- Check on your transcripts and letters of recommendation to see that they have been sent

**January**
- Last chance to take the required tests for fall admissions (it may be too late for some schools)
- Check with each school to see that they have received all the materials, including test scores and financial statements

**February (or after sending off applications)**
- Wait to hear whether you have been accepted
- Continue to make contact with representatives of the schools to which you applied and check on the progress of your applications

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**Keep In Mind...**
This is a suggested timeline - your individual deadlines may vary depending on your graduate school program.

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**Avoid losing letters or asking professors to write letters to numerous schools by storing your letters online.**
Try services like Interfolio (interfolio.com)

**Grad School Advising**
- Literature on admissions and programs
- "Applying to Graduate School" workshop
- "Applying to Law School" workshop
- GRE, GMAT, LSAT, and MCAT test info
- Grad School Fair, Law School Fair (Fall)
- Health Professions Grad School Fair (Spring)

**Career Center Resources**

**If You Don’t Get Accepted**
- Talk to a career counselor to determine some reasons why you were not accepted and decide if you should revisit your goals.
- Don’t give up - students are sometimes accepted on their second or third try, or even later!