

GRADUATE SCHOOL TIMELINE

It is never too early to start thinking about Graduate School. No matter what year you are at Eastern, you can engage in activities to assist you in deciding if graduate school is right for you. If you do choose to further your studies, following the timeline below will help build your admission portfolio:

- Diversify your class selections and explore areas of interest.
- Focus on doing well in your classes and set a strong academic foundation.
- Get involved on campus; join clubs and organizations or volunteer through the CCE.

First Year

1

- Finalize your major and consider adding a minor.
- Develop and demonstrate your writing, research and analytical skills.
- Build strong relationships with faculty members in your academic department.

Sophomore Year

2

- Complete an internship; explore career interests, gain practical experience, and develop professional contacts.
- Talk to your advisor/professors about graduate programs and their suggestions; consider which professors might serve as references when you begin to apply.
- Gather information on grad schools; request catalogs; attend Graduate School Fairs. (See our suggested resources for researching schools and programs later in this guide.)
- Visit the campuses or attend an open house of the programs you are most interested in.
- Think about taking your MCAT in the spring if you are considering med school.

Junior Year

3

- If Law School is in your future, you should be taking your LSAT exam during the summer.
- For other graduate programs, be sure to determine what graduate program admissions test you may need to complete (GRE, MCAT, GMAT).
- Begin prepping for the exam and schedule a time to complete it.
- Review the application materials and **note all application deadlines**. You may need to start the process for some programs earlier than others!
- Medical school deadlines are generally the summer before your senior year
- Law school deadlines are generally the fall of your senior year
- For most other programs of study, plan to complete your graduate school admission file by January or February of your senior year.

Summer Before Senior Year

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- Complete your research of institutions and programs and decide where you will apply.
- Carefully select faculty and/or professionals who can write positive, persuasive and personalized letters of recommendation for you.
- Utilize your resources when writing your personal statement; this includes your faculty advisor, the Center for Internships and Career Development and the Writing Center.
- Investigate financial aid and employment opportunities at prospective institutions.
- If your graduate program requires an interview for admission, consider doing a mock interview with the Center for Internships and Career Development to prepare.

Senior Year

4