Use this resource as a general timeline for preparation for graduate school. Specific requirements will be determined by the graduate school program(s) you apply to. For medical school, please consult with a pre-health advisor.

**Graduate School Preparation Timeline**

**Freshman Year**
- Work on critical, college and general studies courses.
- Explore different areas of psychology covered in PSY 101.
- Get involved with campus organizations (PSI CHI and PET).
- Look into study abroad opportunities.

**Sophomore Year**
- Attend PSI CHI events such as RA/TA Connection and Graduate School Preparation.
- Complete all general studies and college requirements.
- Meet with academic advisor to discuss graduate school goals.
- Connect with faculty members and establish faculty mentors.
- Research graduate school programs of interest (research or practitioner focused) and complete the graduate school comparison worksheet.
- Consider starting internship or research experience.

**Junior Year  First Semester**
- Obtain internship or research assistant position relevant to graduate school program of interest.
- Become a member of PSI CHI.
- Work on earning a strong GPA, preferably above 3.0 or 3.5 depending on program of interest.
- Review and revise your resume/CV with ASU Career & Professional Development Center.
- Identify application materials needed and application due dates.

**Junior Year  Second Semester**
- Prepare for GRE through Princeton Review Test Prep and take GRE during the summer.
- Begin writing your personal statements or essays and have them reviewed by the ASU Writing Center and ASU Career and Professional Development Center.
- Identify faculty and site supervisors as writers for letters of recommendation and request letters.
- Continue with relevant internship and/or research assistant position.
- Attend ASU Explore Graduate School Seminars throughout the semester.

**Senior Year  First Semester**
- Confirm application due dates (most are due in December/January).
- Complete online admission application(s) (most application materials are submitted electronically).
- Send ASU official transcript to graduate program(s).
- Continue with relevant internship and/or research experience.
- Take Psychology specialized courses related to graduate school program(s).
- Confirm that application materials were received.
Examples of Graduate Degree Programs for Psychology Majors:

**Master’s Degree**
- Applied Behavior Analysis
- Applied Psychology
- Business
- Counseling, Mental health
- Criminology
- Education
- Industrial Organizational Psychology
- Marriage & Family Therapy
- School Psychology
- Social Work

**Law, Medicine, or Allied Health Field**

**Doctoral Degree**
- Behavioral Neuroscience
- Counseling Psychology
- Child Psychology
- Clinical Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology
- Industrial Organizational Psychology
- Quantitative Psychology
- Social Psychology

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**Graduate School Preparation Timeline**

**Senior Year** Second Semester
- Check status of your application(s)
- Review funding and financial aid options.
- Send thank you letters to your recommenders.
- Take psychology graduate courses.
- Receive notification of acceptance.

**Gap Year After Graduation** (Not Admitted)
- Obtain high impact career through Peace Corps, Teach for America, or AmeriCorps.
- Gain more research, internship, or volunteer experience in area related to graduate study program that you are applying to.
- Prepare and review application materials and finalize letters of recommendation.

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