Applying to GRAD SCHOOL



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Deciding Where to Apply

- Apply to at least 8 schools
- Apply to both PhD programs and Masters programs
- Location is less important than you think.

Spreadsheets Are Your Friends

Make a spreadsheet with...

- Full school name
- Location of school
- Website
- Application deadline
- What kind of program it is (PhD/MA) and area of psychology
- GRE code
- What to do with transcripts
- Faculty you want to work with
- Any other notes about the school





Sample Spreadsheet

School	Location	Program	Website	Deadline	GRE	Transcripts?		
		J						
Penn State University, University Park	University Park, PA	PhD in I-O	http://ps	v Dec. 1	GRE	Mail w/ App		
Columbia University, Teacher's College	New York, NY	PhD in Social-Organ	1	*				
University of Connecticut	Storrs, CT	PhD in I-O		w Dec. 15	3915	Mail w/ App		
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill, NC	PhD in O-B		w Dec. 15, ASAP	CMAT	Mail w/ App		
NYU	New York, NY	PhD in Social-Organ	http://wv	Dec. 15, online	NYU GSAS,	Mail directly		
Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN	PhD in I-O		v Dec. 20, online		Need 2 copies; Mail o		
George Mason University	Fairfax, VA	PhD in I-O	http://wv	w Jan. 1		Mail w/ App		
Bowling Creen State University	Bowling Green, OH	PhD in I-O	http://sh		Inst: 1069,			
Rice University	Houston, TX	PhD in I-O or MBA	http://wv		вотн	Mail w/ Recs		
University of South Florida	Tampa, FL	PhD in I-O	www.cas	.u Jan. 15	GRE	With application, 2 co		
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	Champaign, IL	PhD in I-O	http://io.	p Jan. 2, online	GRE	Mail directly		
University of Oklahoma	Norman, OK	PhD in I-O	http://pr		вотн	Mail directly		
Carnegie Melon University	Pittsburg, PA	PhD in O-B		Feb. 1, online	вотн	With application		
Oklahoma State	Stillwater, OK	PhD in O-B and Strat	http://sp	e Mar. 1	вотн			
Faculty School				o do				
Faculty School				o do				
Alicia Crandy; Kevin Murg Also has highly rank	ed management and hur	man development prod	ram N	eed sample paper:	Two application	ons for Psych department		
Overall CPA 3.5, CR								
John Mathieu (very well k Quantitative Resear	ch Methods Certificate; A	Average CRE 1300		Have letters and transcripts sent to ME				
Jeff Edwards (famous for 75% have previous								
Offer a stats minor :	, ,							
Howard Weiss (temperme Ashley went there -					n include a writing sample, use same PIN on "applyyoursel			
Ranked 3rd				Optional writing sample, must request app fromd department Need to apply to the university app also,				
	lowships for \$13,000/year, Psych GRE "desireable", MBA costs \$72							
Paul Spector (area direct Program ranked 10th overall, average GRE 1350 Decided to do paper app, rec letters need for								
Michael Pratt in Managem most students don't have masters; average GPA 3.74; Average Math 717, V Psych GRE recommended, not required; Online w/ same								
Shane Connelly or Mike B Summer program to NYU				Confirmation # is VQFA0D67D3DC.				
Denise Rousseau (is really O/B school, wants 0					100% Fellowships, GMAT optional			
Marie! Also Mark Cavin (d Most have Master's,	k Gavin (d Most have Master's, only two students per year				GMAT or GRE, have funding for conferences			

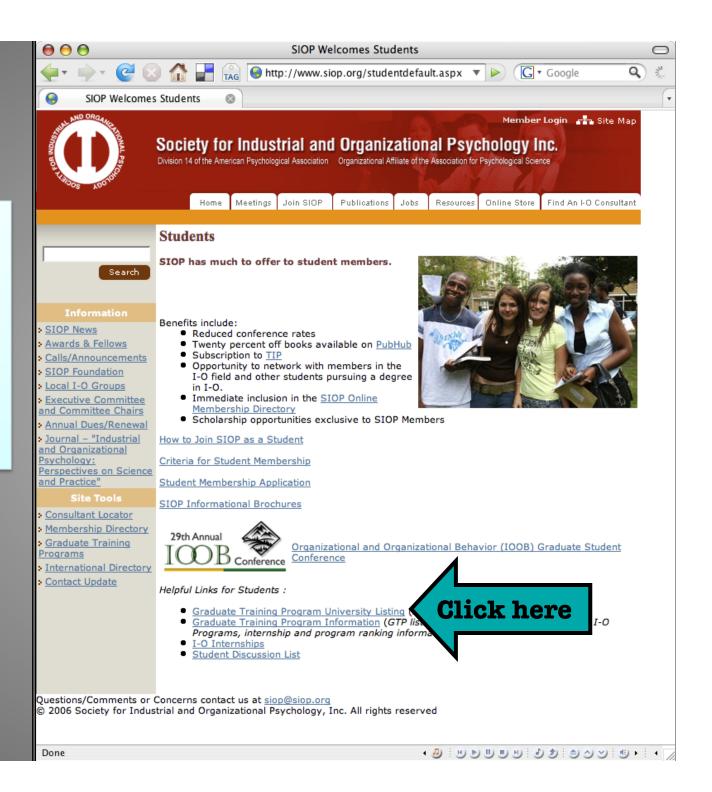
Note: Current information has probably changed. Use this spreadsheet only as an example of how to make a spreadsheet.



The Society for Industrial/
Organizational Psychology

www.siop.org

You can see the full list of programs or search with criteria



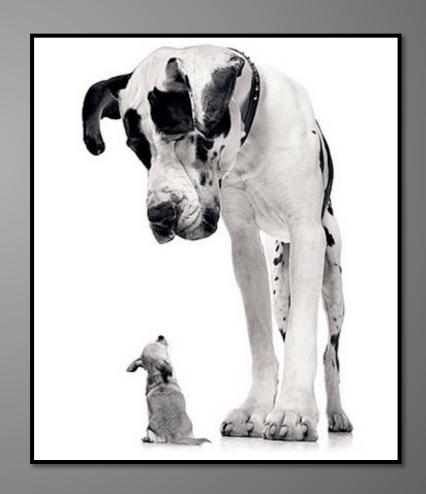
List of all AACSB Accredited Schools

Click here for the link

UNITED STATES		
Auburn University (Alabama) Raymond J. Harbert College of Business	ñ	0
Auburn University Montgomery (Alabama) School of Business	ñ	0
Jacksonville State University (Alabama) College of Commerce and Business Administration	ñ	0
Samford University (Alabama) Brock School of Business	ñ	0
Tuskegee University (Alabama) Brimmer College of Business and Information Science	ñ	0
The University of Alabama (Alabama) Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration	ñ	0
University of Alabama at Birmingham (Alabama) Collat School of Business	ñ	0
University of Alabama in Huntsville (Alabama) College of Business Administration	ñ	0
University of Montevallo (Alabama) Michael E. Stephens College of Business	ñ	0
University of South Alabama (Alabama) Mitchell College of Business	ñ	0
University of Alaska Anchorage (Alaska) College of Business and Public Policy	ñ	0
University of Alaska Fairbanks (Alaska) School of Management	ñ	0
Arizona State University (Arizona) W. P. Carey School of Business	ñ	0
Northern Arizona University (Arizona) The W. A. Franke College of Business	ñ	0
Thunderbird School of Global Management (Arizona)	*	0
The University of Arizona (Arizona) Eller College of Management	ñ	0
Arkansas State University (Arkansas) College of Business	ñ	0
Arkansas Tech University (Arkansas) College of Business	ñ	0
Henderson State University (Arkansas) School of Business	ñ	0
Ouachita Baptist University (Arkansas) Frank D. Hickingbotham School of Business	ñ	0
Southern Arkansas University (Arkansas) College of Business	ñ	0
University of Arkansas (Arkansas) Sam M. Walton College of Business	ñ	0
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (Arkansas) College of Business	ñ	0
University of Arkansas at Little Rock (Arkansas) College of Business	ñ	0
University of Central Arkansas (Arkansas) College of Business Administration	ñ	0
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (California) Orfalea College of Business	ñ	0

Letters of Recommendation Binder

- One for each of your 3 letter writers
- Front of binder:
 - Your name
 - CV (academic resume)
 - Personal Statement
 - Transcripts
 - List of things you'd like the writer to mention about you, including the date you started working with them.



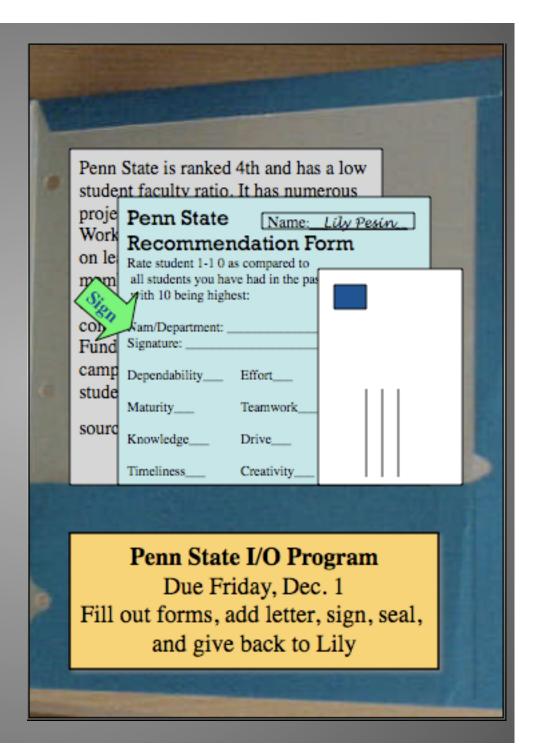
Folders

For each school:

- Recomendation forms
- Program description
- Addressed, stamped envelope
- "Sign here" post its

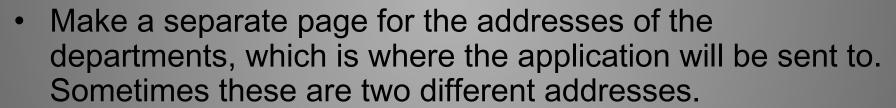
On the folder, write:

- School name
- Letter due date
- Type of program (ex: MBA in finance, PhD in Accounting)
- What to do with the letter (mail or give back to you)



Transcripts

- As your going through the schools' websites, write down:
 - The address they want the transcripts sent to
 - How many transcripts are necessary
 - Official or unofficial

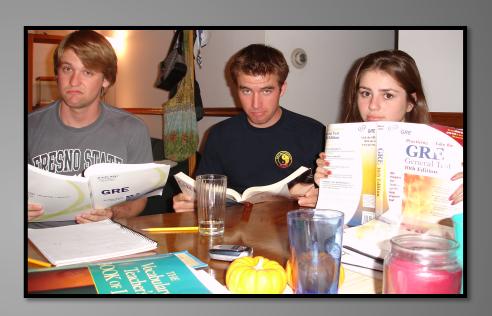


- Buy a couple of extra transcripts in case you decide to apply to another program at the last minute.
- These can cost you around \$50, so be prepared!



Studying for the GMAT

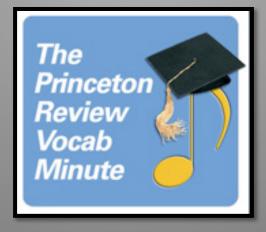
- Study groups
- Classes
- Flashcards at the gym
- Get a prep book at the library
- Use podcasts:
 - LSAT Logic For Everyday Life
 - Princeton Review's Vocab Minute and other Vocabulary podcasts
 - Math podcasts



Podcasts for the GMAT

- They're free!
- Automatically update each week
- Listen anywhere
- Use them to study vocabulary, math, or for the analytical section



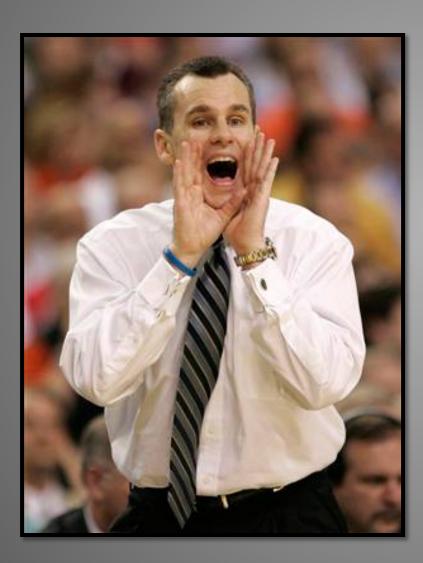




Get podcasts from iTunes



Don't Panic if You Flunk the GMAT



- You can take it again, but only do it once
- Work on other parts of your grad school applications instead, especially getting more research experience and/or work experience
- Apply to one or two more safety schools

PhD Personal Statements

- Instead of personal statement, it should be called the "why you should pay me lots of money to research at your school" statement.
- Don't get your application thrown into the "crazy" pile.
 - Leave out pathology, religion, or traumatic experiences.
 - -Use regular white paper.
 - -No smiley faces.



"I am special"

- Talk about your specific research interests.
 - "Through my personal and work experiences, I' ve become very interested in working on X topic(s)."
 - The research interests you list should match with at least one faculty member at the school you're applying to.
- Talk about coursework only if you did something beyond the requirements.
 - Ex: Intermediate Statistics
 - Class outside of your major that fits
 - Study abroad experience only as it applies to graduate school (for example, you want to study cross cultural psychology)

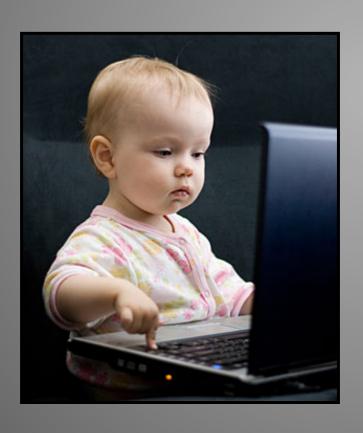
"And you people rock my world"

- End with one or two paragraphs about the school.
 - "I am interested in Dr. X's work on ____. I have had some background in this topic in my work on ____."
 - You can also cite a RECENT paper.
- Many professors' websites are outdated. Check Google Scholar to see more recent work.



"Plus, my parents read me research articles since I was a baby"

The main focus of a PhD is always research.



No matter what led you to be interested in business and what you plan to do after you get your degree, research should be the main focus of your personal statement.

Other Stuff to Think About

- Don't overload your schedule when applying to grad school.
- Some schools ask for a writing sample keep this in mind if you have papers due this fall.
- Polish your CV.

You Got Into Grad Schooll ... Now What?



- Research all the professors again before you get there, and look up your statement to see which one you said you were interested in working with.
- Get some professional clothes.
- E-mail the grad students to ask whether they are happy with the school and for any advice they can give.
- Do not make a decision until you have heard back from all of your schools, even if you think you had no chance of getting in.

Good Questions To Ask When You Visit

- What kind of projects are your students currently working on?
- Are there opportunities to work for organizations through internships or consulting projects?
- Is the program structured in a way that makes students cooperative or competitive with each other?





More Questions

- Are there opportunities to work with multiple faculty, or will most projects be with the same person?
- How supportive are faculty with regard to original ideas for research?
- What kind of external grants or private grants does the department have?
- What kind of teaching opportunities are there? What proportion of first year students get these?

And Finally...

- On average, how many years do students take to finish the degree?
- What is the retention rate?
- Is it difficult to switch advisors or thesis topics in the program?
- What is the typical job success rate after graduation for students in this program?
- How long is the stipend guaranteed?



Some Good Things About This Scary Process:



- It weeds out the people who don't want to put time into applications, so you have fewer people to compete against.
- You'll bond with other people complaining about the GMAT.
- If you visit a school you don't end up going to, you might still meet cool people who you'll see at conferences.
- You did it to get into college, right? You'll be fine.

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