The Grad School Application Process

Contact the top-choice graduate programs to determine their application requirements and deadlines, ideally six months to a year before you plan on applying. This will allow you with plenty of time to complete all prerequisites and to do the best job possible on the application itself. Many schools now also offer the ability to apply online. Some programs have only one admissions cycle per year, while others have rolling admissions (i.e., admissions decisions are made as applications arrive).

Most programs require some combination of the following for admission: scores from the Graduate Record Examination General Test (GRE), and/or other assessment test (GMAT, LSAT); transcripts; letters of recommendation; a personal statement; short essay response; a resume; and an interview.

Source: Dawn Terrell, Ph.D.
The Princeton Review

The Personal Statement
The personal statement is perhaps the single most important element in your application. Ideally, it provides readers with a clear sense of who you are and what you wish to accomplish in graduate school and beyond. Be careful to avoid simply providing a narrative of your resume, but rather use the statement to set yourself apart from other applicants and demonstrate why you would be a good fit with the school's program.

TESTS

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) - The most popular test for admission into graduate school. For more information about the GRE test, visit www.gre.org

Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) - Test specifically designed to help graduate schools assess the qualifications of applicants for advanced study in business and management. For more information, visit www.mba.com

Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) - A standard measure of acquired reading and verbal reasoning skills that law schools can use as one of the several factors in assessing applicants. For more information, visit www.lsac.org

For more information on test taking for Grad School, call:
1-866-473-4373
Mondays through Fridays
8 a.m. - 7:45 p.m. EST
(phone lines are busiest between 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. EST).