

## **How do I choose a graduate program?**

The first step is identifying which schools would meet your needs. One of the easiest ways to do this is to pick up a copy of the APA Graduate Study in Psychology for the current year (<http://www.apa.org/pubs/books/4270097.aspx>). We also typically keep some copies in the Psychology main office (AH23).

Next, visit the graduate school's website. They typically have information on average GRE scores, GPAs, and similar information. You can use this to help gauge whether you have a reasonable chance of being accepted. Most students apply to several schools, but don't apply to a school that you wouldn't go to if you get accepted – you will just be wasting your money!

Once you have narrowed down your options, you can start looking at individual professors – are any of them studying something you find interesting? In graduate school, advisors play an important role in your career, so you will want to find a professor who you think will be a good mentor for you.

You can also look at the program's website or contact them for more information. Some helpful information includes the following:

- Average time to complete the degree
- Attrition rates and policies
- Job placement success
- Logistical resources (such as access to computers, programs, and money for conferences)
- Financial support
- Teaching requirements