Applying to the Doctoral & Master’s Programs at The Graduate Center, CUNY

Jason J. Patterson
Assistant Director of Admissions
Graduate Center, CUNY
A PUBLIC GRADUATE SCHOOL IN THE CENTER OF NYC

About the Graduate Center

The Graduate Center of The City University of New York, a leader in public graduate education, is committed to doctoral and master's education for the public good.

Innovative research, rigorous scholarship, and collaborative and interdisciplinary learning define graduate education here and prepare students with creative, problem-solving expertise to thrive in and beyond the academy.

We are dedicated to CUNY's historic mission of educating the "children of the whole people," providing access to graduate education for diverse and highly talented students, including those who have been underrepresented in higher education.
Introduction
Applying to the Programs at The Graduate Center, CUNY

The Office of Admissions is the central administrative group at The Graduate Center (GC)

Responsible for the processing of applications for the over 50 doctoral, master’s, and advanced certificate programs from Anthropology to Urban Education, including Chemistry, Data Science, Liberal Studies, and Physics.

Applications are processed by the office of admissions and are then made available for review by the programs’ admissions committee members.
Master’s Programs

*All Master’s programs at the Graduate Center have fall application deadlines
Some master’s programs will also have a spring application deadline

- Astrophysics
- Biography & Memoir
- Classics
- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Comparative Literature
- Data Analysis & Visualization
- Data Science
- Digital Humanities
- International Migration Studies
- Liberal Studies
- Linguistics
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences
- Women’s & Gender Studies
Doctoral Programs

*Doctoral programs at the Graduate only begin in the fall

- Anthropology
- Art History
- Audiology
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Classics
- Comparative Literature
- Computer Science
- Criminal Justice
- Earth & Environmental Sciences
- Economics
- Educational Psychology
- English
- French
- History
- Latin American, Iberian, & Latino Cultures
- Linguistics
- Mathematics
- Music
- Neuroscience
- Nursing
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Social Welfare
- Sociology
- Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences
- Theatre & Performance
- Urban Education
Overview
How to Apply

- Go to Online Application Page
- Create Account and Complete Online Application
  - You will use an admissions system called “Hobson’s Apply Yourself”
  - The AY system allows entry of all application information and uploads unofficial copies of supporting documents
  - Admitted applicants will be required to submit official documents

- Required Documentation
  - College Transcripts
  - 2-3 Letters of Recommendation
  - Applicant Statement
  - GRE General Exam Scores (School code: 2113) (IF APPLICABLE)
  - TOEFL OR IELTS (IF APPLICABLE)

- Optional Documentation
  - GRE Subject Test
  - Writing Sample

*Some programs may have requirements specific to their application*
Tips for an Effective Application

- **What is the composition of the Admissions Committee and what does it look for?**
  - Members are faculty from various CUNY campuses that participate in one or more Ph.D. Programs

- **Personal Statement**
  - Why CUNY . . . make sure it is genuine and distinguish yourself
  - Don't just ‘drop’ CUNY names, make sure you know and understand what these professors do

- **Research Area(s)**
  - Very important, for there are many choices, including that for experiment vs. theory
  - Not all areas of research may be ‘available’; do your homework
Tips for an Effective Application

College Transcripts

- Courses in major or closely related disciplines
  - Grades in courses relevant to the major
  - As to other disciplines, grades in writing courses are important
  - MS vs BS grades
  - Trend of grades from lower level to senior year is important, not only GPA
  - Theory [e.g., in physics] applicants, make sure your math related grades are strong
Tips for an Effective Application

Letters of Recommendation

- Minimum of 2, Some programs will accept more
  - Advisor or faculty from your major is important
  - If did undergraduate research, ask for letters from the research advisor
  - Make sure that recommender knows you relatively well
Financing Graduate Study

- Fellowships
- Teaching and Research Assistantships
- Federal and Private Loans
- Scholarship – institutional or private
Contact

Jason J. Patterson
Assistant Director of Admissions
E: Jpatterson@gc.cuny.edu
P: 212.817.7470