



CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

C H A N N E L
I S L A N D S

Suggested Graduate School Checklist Timeline

Six months prior to applying:

- Research areas of interest, institutions and programs
- Register and prepare for appropriate admission tests
- If appropriate, obtain letters of recommendation
- Three months prior to applying:
 - Take required admissions tests
 - Obtain application materials
 - Visit institutions of interest, if possible
 - Write a draft of your application essay
 - Get feedback from 3 academic professionals regarding your application essay
 - If needed for medical, dental, osteopathy, podiatry, or law school, register for the national application or data assembly service

Fall: 1 year before starting graduate school:

- Take admission tests
- Send in completed applications
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the CSS Financial Aid PROFILE, if required
- Spring: 1 semester before starting graduate school:
 - Check with all institutions before the deadline to make sure your file is complete. Send a deposit to your institution of choice
 - Notify other colleges and universities that accepted you of your decision so that they may admit students on their waiting list
 - Send thank you notes to people who wrote your recommendation letters, informing them of your success