

Getting into Grad School: ECON/FINC/MBA/LAW (or getting a job)

Fri., Sept. 29, 2006, 12.30-1.30, Atkinson 201

For more info, Dept. webpage, at <http://economics.gcsu.edu>.

Graduation Application

If you are graduating in fall 2006 or spring 2007, your graduation application (available at <http://gcsu.edu/registrar/graduation/>) is past due. Please complete this form immediately. For help, go to the School of Business Academic & Career Support Center, 205 Atkinson. If you are graduating in summer or fall 2007, the application deadline is January 6, 2007. Please complete this paperwork on time.

GRE, GMAT, LSAT, TOEFL Exams

Graduate programs require that you take an exam prior to admission: GRE (for economics), GMAT (for MBA or other business programs), or LSAT (for law school). For more information on the exam dates and locations, see: www.gre.org for the GRE, www.mba.com for the GMAT, or www.lsats.org for the LSAT. International students are required to take the TOEFL exam (see www.ets.org).

Dates for the GRE and GMAT are flexible (the computer based tests can be taken almost any day). The closest testing center is Prometric Testing Center in Macon (478.405.7423), but you can also take it at UGA or Georgia State U. The LSAT is offered on Dec. 2 (registration through Oct. 31). See the appropriate website for more information on the exams.

Students interested in graduate programs in economics may take the GRE subject exam, but most programs do not require the subject exam.

Application Deadlines

Most graduate programs in economics have application deadlines in Jan. (for entry in the following fall term). Make sure you have arranged for GRE scores, transcripts, letters of recommendation, etc., to arrive on time.

Graduate Assistantships

Ph.D. programs in economics typically offer qualified students a graduate teaching or research assistantship. These usually come with an out-of-state tuition waiver and modest stipend (maybe \$1000-1500 per month). Make sure you meet the deadlines for applying for assistantships. They're usually in Feb. or Mar.

Even if you're just interested in a master's in economics, you should apply to the Ph.D. program to get funding. You can often get a Master's after 1 yr.

Law schools and MBA programs generally do not offer financial support, but check individual programs for details.

Recommended Courses

Students interested in graduate programs in economics should prepare by completing the concentration in "Graduate Study Prep." See the B.S. degree checksheet for details. We recommend you take as much math as possible, including:

- MATH 1261, 1262, and 2263: Calculus I, II, and III
- MATH 2150, Linear Algebra
- MATH 4340, Differential Equations

Recommended Resources (Walker has a copy of each of these.)

On Graduate School

- Mitchell, Lesli. 1996. *The ultimate grad school survival guide*. Peterson's. (ISBN: 1560795808)
- Peters, Robert. 1997. *Getting what you came for: The smart student's guide to earning a Masters or a Ph.D.* Noonday Press. (ISBN 0374524777)
- Watch *The Paper Chase* (1973). It gives a not-completely-stupid view of what graduate/law school is like.

Advanced Undergraduate & Beginning Graduate Texts

- Griffiths, Hill, and Judge, Learning and Practicing Econometrics, ISBN 0471513644
- Kennedy, A Guide to Econometrics, 5th ed., ISBN 026261183X (or earlier editions)
- Chiang, Fundamental Methods of Mathematical Economics, 3rd ed., ISBN 0070108137
- C.E. Ferguson, Microeconomic Theory (1966), Ferguson and Maurice, Economic Analysis (1970), or other editions, either book
- Nicholson, Microeconomic Theory: Basic Principles and Extensions, 9th ed., ISBN 0324270860 (or earlier editions)
- Schaum's Outlines, in a variety of subjects.

Planning

It is very important that you plan ahead. If you want to go to graduate school, the application process is time consuming and expensive. Start early!