



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS
School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences

Guide to Getting Into Graduate School and UT Dallas

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Overview

- CONSIDERATIONS IN LOOKING FOR AND DECIDING ON A GRADUATE SCHOOL
- WHAT ADMISSIONS COMMITTEES LOOK FOR IN EVALUATING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS
- WHAT UT DALLAS HAS TO OFFER



The Basics

- Am I ready for 2 or more years in school?
- Do I have the academic record? (you still have time)
- Is this the right field for me?
- Can I afford it?
 - Can I be a part-time student and work full time?
 - Can I be a full-time student and work part-time?



What to Look for in a Graduate Program

- APPROACH TO CLINICAL EDUCATION Continuum of Pre-Planned to Co-Planned
 - Students fit into the program or the program fits the students
 - Pre-Planned: program-centered, fixed curriculum, homogeneous outcome
 - Co-Planned: student-centered, individualized degree plans, heterogeneous outcomes
- EMPHASIS: Balance of Clinical and Research. Specializations and Certificates
- PRACTICUM: Ratio of on and off-campus experiences, variety of sites, immersion, choice, supervision style
- CLASSES: Size, Instructors, Electives
- REPUTATION (Ranking, SLP's, Current and Former Students)
- RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES (Mandatory or Optional)



Out-of-Field Applicant

- Leveling and Prerequisites
 - What is leveling?
 - What courses need to be completed before the start of the program?
- Time to degree
 - What is the timeline to graduation?
- Attitude toward non-majors
 - How does UTD feel about out-of-field students?
- Preference for Own Undergraduate Majors
 - Are there preferred undergraduate majors?

Preparing for Graduate School

- **SHOW YOU TAKE ACADEMICS SERIOUSLY**
 - Get Good Grades
 - Take Challenging Courses
 - Observe Clinical Programs
 - New Guidelines for up-to-date SLPs
 - Study for the GRE
- **BE NOTICED (POSITIVELY) BY FACULTY (TO GET GOOD RECOMMENDATION LETTERS)**
 - Attend Office Hours/Reviews
 - Volunteer in research or as a teaching assistant
 - Balance with grades (Extracurriculars, Volunteer Work, Leadership)
- **VISIT PROGRAMS**
 - Learn about them
 - Show you are interested
 - Do research on programs



What is Considered by Admissions Committees

- **QUANTITATIVE**
 - **GRADES (overall, last 2 years, trajectory, major, science courses)**
 - **GRE (V+Q Scores, some also include W)**
 - **WHAT'S EXPECTED**
- **QUALITATIVE**
 - **FACULTY RECOMMENDATIONS (OTHERS)**
 - **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: Snapshot, Writing Skills (Resume?)**
 - **PROFESSIONAL GOALS, AND RELEVANT EXPERIENCES**
 - **HONEST ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF WEAKNESSES IN RECORD**
 - **DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU ARE GOING TO GRADUATE SCHOOL**
 - **INTANGIBLES (SHOWING INTEREST, MATCH)**



Why UT Dallas?

- Highly Individualized Education
 - courses and practicum may be developed around interests and career goals
 - Children or Adults? You'll have the opportunity to work with both!
- Practicum Opportunities
 - on and off campus experience
 - variety of sites
 - choice
 - supervision style
- Class Size (Varies)
- Atmosphere
 - very friendly
 - helpful in guidance





Why UT Dallas? Cont.

Campuses

- Callier-Dallas
- Callier-Richardson

Great Reputation & Ranking

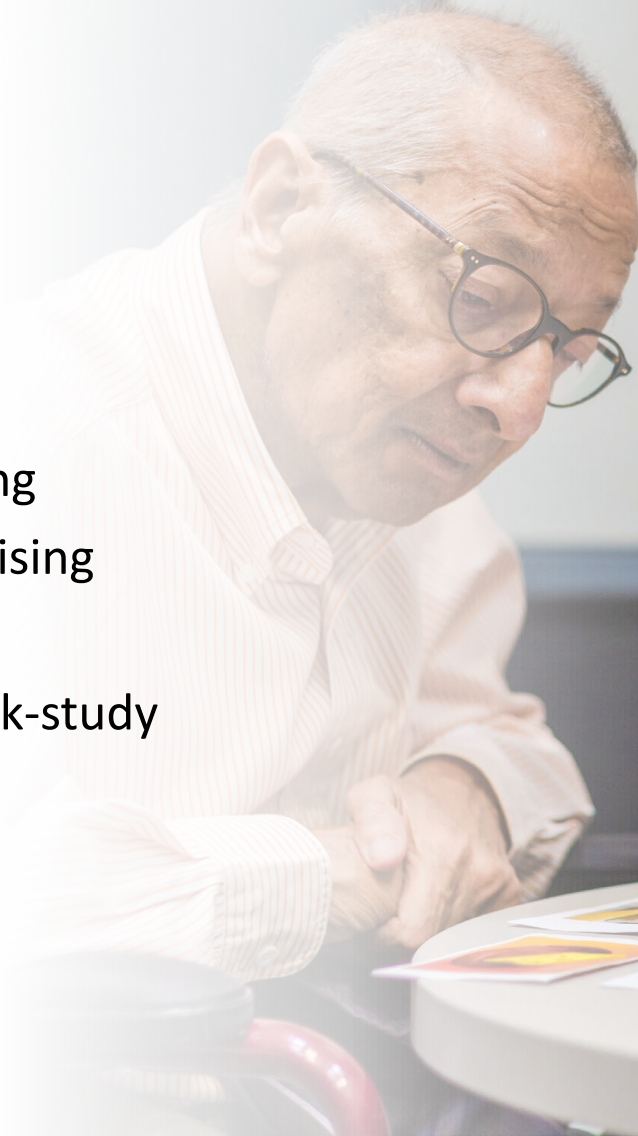
Clinical and Academic Advising

Funding/Work

- Opportunities for work-study
- Grants
- DISD Project

Research Opportunities

- Combine MS/PhD





Former Aggies Share Why They Chose UTD

“For me it was the in-program leveling they have and the fact that we could personalize our degree plan to what interests us!”

“Definitely that the leveling program is only one semester long, and it’s incorporated into the masters! Also that UTD’s stats are basically that you are guaranteed to pass the Praxis exam and guaranteed a job when you graduate.”

“That it’s a family-like atmosphere when you join, and you can make so many connections with people!! Also the fact that the leveling classes are incorporated into the program, and they genuinely want us to succeed!”

“I agree with all the things that y’all said of what interested me in the program— I also loved that UTD is a very clinically based program rather than a research based one like some schools; and what y’all said before that they really want to be able to cater to our interests as we go through the program, and offer a wide variety of clinicals to get experience in many areas.”



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Apply to UT Dallas!

APPLY ONLINE <https://bbs.utdallas.edu/degrees/comd/>

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

- **FEBRUARY 15** FOR SUMMER AND FALL
- **SEPTEMBER 15** FOR SPRING
- ROLLING ADMISSIONS

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