Applying to Graduate School in Psychology

10/19/21
What will I need when applying to graduate school in psychology?
• Letters of recommendation (typically 3)
• Official transcript from Carleton
• Personal statement
• GRE scores
When are applications typically due?
• For Ph.D. programs, December 1\textsuperscript{st} is a common deadline

• Most Ph.D. programs have due dates in December-January
• NOTE: December 1\textsuperscript{st} is typically when fall grades are due from Carleton faculty
When should I ask faculty for letters of recommendation?
• General recommendation:

At least one month before the first letter is due.
Whom should I ask for letters of recommendation?
Carleton faculty who know your work

Summer research supervisors outside of Carleton

Possibly non-research clinical or work supervisors (depends)
What kinds of things do I need to provide for faculty recommenders?
• Personal statement
• Transcript
• Resume
• List of schools you’re applying to
• The types of programs
• Due dates for each program
• Friendly reminders (optional)
• What’s a reasonable number of schools to apply to?

• OR

• How many letters can I ask of an individual faculty member without upsetting them?
It depends
How can I enhance my chances of getting into graduate school in psychology?
Contact individual faculty members at the schools you’re interested in (for Ph.D. programs)

Contact student outreach representatives and ask them for guidance

Consider visiting a school/lab (probably won’t work for clinical programs)
Is it necessary to have research experience before applying to graduate school?
Yes
Is there anything else I can do?
Some possibilities:

Attach a link to a video of you speaking (1) about yourself as an applicant and/or (2) giving a presentation of some kind (if it’s good and you come across positively on camera.
Any other advice?
Consider attaching one of your papers, especially if you’re the sole student author on the paper.
Talk in class, at least in small groups

Visit office hours and ask questions
Try to get over your terror about looking less than brilliant in front of your professors.
How do I approach faculty members when asking for a recommendation?
For me personally:

• Email request is OK
• Asking for an in person meeting is OK, too
• Voicemail request is OK, too
Is it OK to wait a year or two after graduation before I apply, or will that work against me?
More than OK!!
Where can I find more resources on applying to graduate school in psychology?
https://www.apa.org/education/career/grad/apply
Final Thoughts

Besides the APA site, I would ask other people (faculty, former students, people in the field) for their perspectives.