

We asked MG graduate students, "Any advice for students applying to grad school?"

"Good choice!"

"Have fun!"

"Be prepared"

"Go for it even if you're afraid to do so"

"Don't panic!"

"Enjoy writing the personal statement. It's a great time to reflect"

"Read the book "The Art of Being a Scientist" by Roel Snieder and Ken Larner"

"If you need more info than what is given on the website, feel free to contact any faculty member or current graduate student. People are happy to help and give suggestions."

"Apply to schools with a bunch of faculty you would be interested in working with"

"If you are applying to grad school for a specific researcher there, email them in advance"

"Carefully consider all aspects, not just the science, when thinking about selecting schools to apply to. Think about what you want to learn/get out of a graduate school program and pick schools that will satisfy those desires. Also make sure to think about the surrounding area because you will be in grad school for 5+ years and having options for fun stuff will help make things less stressful!"

"Make sure you have an idea of what graduate school will do for you and what you want from it. Have an idea for an end goal in mind and work to pursue that."

"Make sure you go somewhere where there are many labs you are interested in, and be open to new research fields and topics"

"What lab you choose depends on your priorities but choose a lab where working is fun for the next 6 years!"

"Make sure you are a good fit for the lab"

"Choose the PI whom you are most comfortable in interacting with"

"Choose wisely, you are in that place for a long time"

"Choose an advisor that cares about training graduate students and you really like!"

"Figure out what YOU want out of grad school first then choose a lab with history of success."

"Plan ahead what your week will be like, this way you will avoid decision fatigue. Don't stop doing the things you love or spending time with your loved ones."

"Be open-minded and learn as much as you can about fields outside of your own"

"Remember to have a fun hobby to keep and good work-life balance!"

"Make sure to keep some life-work balance. Have something non-lab related to do, and then be sure to do it."

"Don't get caught up in which model system you want to work with or what you specifically want to study. Go in open minded and pick a lab with a methodical and logical approach to whatever their scientific question. That ability translates to any model system or area of study."