



Taking a Gap Year

Wondering whether or not to go straight to graduate school after you graduate with your bachelor's degree? Or what you should spend your time doing during the gap year or more before graduate school? This is common! There are different things you may consider before you decide on a course of action.

Career Exploration

Interested in 2 or more careers that require different graduate training? Take a year or more to explore both. After an internship or six months of temporary work, you have a better sense of whether the field is a match for you.

Real World 101

Some decide to work in their profession for ~ 1-5 years before graduate school to gain real world experience. This can inform where you want to take your future career and which graduate degree will be the best to help you get there.

Strengthening Your Application

Many programs require or strongly prefer that applicants have concrete work experience in the field. They want assurance that their applicants know what they're getting into and, on the basis of prior work/internship experience, and are prepared to get the most out their program. If your academic record isn't top notch, a strong recommendation from a professional in the field who has watched you work can increase your odds as an applicant.

Acting Globally

Some students decide to spend their time before graduate school traveling or working abroad to combine their career interests with an international focus or get experience living in another country and culture.