**First Year & Sophomore Year**
- Learn more about your interests by engaging in a variety of activities inside and outside the classroom and using Becker Career Center’s Career Exploration Resources.
- Research undergraduate course prerequisites you will be expected to have prior to your graduate program study, so you can plan your academic schedule at Union accordingly.
- Attend speaker events and seminar talks while engaging with faculty and alumni in your interest areas to discuss your graduate school interests and figure out if graduate school is right for you.
- Engage in internships and/or research consistent with your interests.

**Junior Year**
- Utilize the Graduate School Resources Page to begin identifying schools and programs that fit with your intended career goals. Use the Graduate School Research Matrix form to organize your search.
- Take practice admissions tests that are appropriate with your graduate study. Determine if you’ll need test prep.
- Engage in internships and/or research consistent with your interests.
- Get input from faculty on the programs you’re researching.
- Write a personal statement for each graduate program. Have them reviewed by professors, the Career Center and the Office of Writing Programs. Your essay will likely take several drafts. Take graduate admissions tests required for your program.

**Senior Year**
- Attend campus tours and reach out to faculty members and/or the dean of the department at your program of interest. It is important to network at the graduate school in order to learn about the program and demonstrate your genuine interest in the program. Leverage faculty, UCAN and LinkedIn to identify contacts at your graduate program. Schedule appointments with professors to request letters of recommendation.
- Attend campus tours and reach out to faculty members and/or the dean of the department at your program of interest. It is important to network at the graduate school in order to learn about the program and demonstrate your genuine interest in the program. Leverage faculty, UCAN and LinkedIn to identify contacts at your graduate program. Schedule appointments with professors to request letters of recommendation.
- Make a decision to attend the program that is the best fit for you.
- Follow up with your contacts at the programs you applied to and let them know you have applied. If you are rejected, you can make your case for re-consideration. Ask the Career Center for help with this.

**First and Sophomore Year**
- Learn about your interests through experiences on and off campus and through networking.

**Junior Year**
- Research and learn more about graduate school, continue learning about your interests through experiences and networking, and begin working on components of your application.

**Senior Year**
- Visit schools, network, apply and make a decision on the program that is the best fit for you.

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**Email the Becker Career Center at careercenter@union.edu or call 518.388.6176 to schedule an appointment to discuss Graduate School or visit the Becker Career Center’s Graduate School Resources Page here:** [https://www.union.edu/becker-career-center/student-resources/graduate-school-resources](https://www.union.edu/becker-career-center/student-resources/graduate-school-resources)