



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

Department of Geography
and the Environment

Graduate Program Application Checklist

All materials should be submitted via the online application through the Office of Graduate Admissions
<https://www.du.edu/graduate-education/admission> .

Application Deadlines: Our on campus programs accept applications for Fall 2021 quarter matriculation only.

- *Priority Deadline: January 15, 2021.*
- For the online MS-GIS program, please consult the deadlines listed online.

1. **Personal/Research Statement:** A personal statement of at least 300 words is required. It is especially beneficial if this statement includes research interests, thesis or dissertation topical ideas, and specific reasons for applying to the Department of Geography and the Environment at the University of Denver.
2. Applicants to the PhD, MA, and MSGIS on-campus programs are strongly encouraged to contact faculty members with similar research interests who may serve as potential thesis or dissertation advisors.
3. An updated **curriculum vitae or résumé** is recommended but optional.
4. **Three (3) letters of recommendation** are required. These should be from persons able to assess your potential for graduate research, such as recent professors or employers. Each recommender will receive an electronic invitation to submit a letter.
5. **Transcripts from previous degrees:** All graduate applicants must hold an earned baccalaureate from a regionally accredited college or university or the recognized equivalent from an international institution. The minimum undergraduate GPA for admission consideration to the MA or MS-GIS program is a cumulative 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

The PhD program in Geography requires an earned master's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution. The minimum GPA is a cumulative 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for all graduate coursework undertaken.

6. **GRE Exam** scores are not required for the Fall 2021 application year.
7. **English Language Proficiency:** Official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or C1 Advanced are required of all graduate applicants, regardless of citizenship status, whose native language is not English or who have been educated in countries where English is not the native language.

The minimum scores for admission as outline by the Office of Graduate Education:

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): 80 (iBT) or 550 (paper-based)

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS): 6.5
- Cambridge English: C1 Advanced: 169

Additionally, to be considered for a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) position

- Minimum TOEFL Speaking Section Score: 26 (iBT)
- Minimum IELTS Speaking Section Score: 8
- Minimum C1 Advanced Speaking Section Score: 200

Each year a limited number of Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) positions are available for applicants to the on-campus graduate programs.