

# Applying to Graduate School for GT Math Undergrads

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Georgia Institute of Technology

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## Target Audience for These Slides

What Juniors Can Do to Get Ready

Discipline Specific

IGERT & Multidisciplinary Programs

## Checklist for Grad School

GRE Test And Scores

Where to Apply

Letter Writers

## A Range of Fellowships

The List of Possibilities

What the Support Means

How to Apply for Them

Fulbrights

## I am in Grad School. Now What Do I Do?

## These Slides are For . . .

GT Math Majors, from Freshman on up, who are considering continuing their studies. Grad School permits you to: Grad School permits you to:

- ▶ **Specialize your knowledge**

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- ▶ Refine the skills you have gained as a undergraduate

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The PhD should take 5 years to finish



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GT Math majors also go to Law School, other science and engineering disciplines, Dental School, Peace Corp, Divinity School,...

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And the discipline has never had as much fascinating research as it  
does now.

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And the score is reported in minutes

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Don't have to take the test in your particular discipline.

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Discrete Math Majors, who haven't taken Diff Eq, should review that material!

## Some Data on GT Math Grad Admissions

Averages from those students admitted to GT Math, in Spring 2003 recruiting season:

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Many GT Undergrads have a rich experience, with REUs, and Senior Projects. These will help you in the admissions process.

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The Economy, and Current budget problems for State Governments has effected Grad School budgets at many Universities. The Big State Uni may not be there for you.

## Group 1 Institutions

City U. of New York—Graduate Center, Georgia Institute of Technology, Indiana U. —Bloomington, Michigan State U., Ohio State U., Pennsylvania State U., Purdue U., Rutgers U. —New Brunswick, State U. of New York—Stony Brook, U. of California—Berkeley, U. of California—Los Angeles, U. of California—San Diego, U. of California—Santa Barbara, U. of Illinois—Chicago, U. of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign, U. of Maryland—College Park, U. of Michigan—Ann Arbor, U. of Minnesota—Minneapolis, U. of North Carolina—Chapel Hill, U. of Oregon, U. of Texas—Austin, U. of Utah, U. of Virginia, U. of Washington, U. of Wisconsin—Madison,

## Be Realistic in Applications

Be realistic about where to apply to. GT has placed students at Princeton, MIT and NYU. Blair Dowling, David Vener, and Yakov Kerzhner. All three were outstanding students.

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Consider some less obvious places, that are still outstanding.

UCLA, U British Columbia, CUNY Grad College, Stony Brook, Northwestern, McGill, . . .

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Tell your faculty mentors (Lacey, Wang, REU sponsor, . . .) where you are applying to.



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Special circumstances always arise. Seek additional advice to  
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The Ecole Normale opportunity is new, as of 2002. It might be good to get in before it becomes more well known.

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A more comprehensive and up to date page is likely to be at the GT Grad School

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This support is very useful to you, since it frees a lot of time for research, and provides some extra perks.

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**Have faculty members go over your statements.** These are the types of people who will be on the panels that decide the Fellowships.

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After the Fellowships are announced in late March, request your score from the NSF. This will give you insight into what parts of your application was viewed as lacking.

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✳Math is an international discipline, and you can do interesting math in a huge variety of countries.



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- ⊛ Learn how to absorb theorems, and the ideas behind them, as quickly as possible. (This was one of Andy Wand's strengths.)
- ⊛ Of course some of the suggestions are contradictory.

# What do I do in Grad School?

- ⊛ The main reason you are in Grad School is to do Research.
- ⊛ Go to Seminars, Read Math Papers.
- ⊛ Ask Profs for a paper to read. A time honored method! Find a reason to go back and ask questions about the paper.
- ⊛ Learn TeX.
- ⊛ Pass the Qualifying Exams as soon as you can.
- ⊛ Learn how to absorb theorems, and the ideas behind them, as quickly as possible. (This was one of Andy Wand's strengths.)
- ⊛ Of course some of the suggestions are contradictory.  
But this is not the first time you have gotten contradictory advice!