

# TOP FIVE

## GRADUATE SCHOOL INTERVIEW TIPS

As a graduate student, you're going to be fielding a lot of advice. It starts before you enter your program—with application tips and strategies for how to craft the perfect essay—and it carries right on through to graduation.



### BE PREPARED

Before going into your interview, **read up on the program**. What makes it unique? Why are you interested in this program in particular? If you know the name of your interviewer, it's also a good idea to look them up online.

### LISTEN, THEN TALK

Engage with your interviewer and really listen to what they're asking you. Be prepared for follow-up questions and remember: **This is a conversation**. Your interviewer wants to get a sense of **who you are as a person**.

### ANTICIPATE THE UNEXPECTED

You may be asked about your weaknesses, or about a time you failed. You might get asked a follow-up question that seems to come out of left field. Don't let it throw you.

### PREPARE QUESTIONS

At some point, your interviewer will probably ask if you have any questions. Don't say no! Before you even start practicing, keep track of any questions you have about the program.

### DON'T NEGLECT THE LITTLE THINGS

Get a good night's sleep the night before. Make sure you have enough time before your interview for a shower. If you're interviewing by phone or video, **make sure you're in a quiet place free of noise and distractions**. Pick a clean, professional outfit and iron all items the day before.

