

ABOUT GRADx

The Graduate School Exploration (GRADx) program expands the reach of the Undergraduate and Faculty Fellows Program to Diversify the Professoriate, enabling more ACM undergraduates from underrepresented backgrounds to learn about graduate school opportunities.

A year-long program, GRADx consists of two forums hosted at a partner Big Ten Academic Alliance campus – one in the fall and one in the spring. During these forums, students will learn about various aspects of graduate study, including:

- What is graduate school and what does an R1 research university look like?
- What can I do with an advanced degree? What transferrable skills will I gain by pursuing one?
- What does academic research look like in the humanities, humanistic social sciences, and arts?
- How can I identify and build relationships with good mentors and sponsors?

All qualified undergraduates from racial and ethnic groups historically underrepresented in the academy are encouraged to apply, including: Alaska Natives; African Americans; Arab Americans; Asian American and other Pacific Islanders; Latinx; Native Americans; Native Hawaiians; first-generation college students; and individuals who have followed non-traditional pathways to college due to exceptional talent and motivation in the face of adversity, such as societal, economic, or academic disadvantages.

GRADx FELLOW RESPONSIBILITIES

GRADx students are expected to fully participate in the two campus forums at a Big Ten Academic Alliance university. Although the precise dates for the two forums for 2019-20 have not been set, the anticipated time frames are:

- September-October 2019
- March-April 2020

COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Students must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply for the GRADx program:

- Have a first-year, sophomore, or junior standing at an ACM college
- Express an interest in pursuing graduate work in the humanities, humanistic social sciences, and/or the arts
- First-year students must have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale at their secondary institution. A letter of recommendation from a professor in one of their first-year courses is also advised.
- Students with sophomore or junior standing must demonstrate a cumulative GPA of 2.65 or higher on a 4.0 scale in their college course work.*
- Students who are selected for this opportunity may not participate in an off-campus study program that would cause them to miss either of the two GRADx forums.

** Students who have a GPA that is near, but not at, this minimum GPA should contact their campus coordinator to discuss their candidacy.*

GRADUATE SCHOOL EXPLORATION PROGRAM (GRADx)

To apply for the program, please submit the following information and materials to your campus coordinator. Due dates will vary by college, so make sure to check with your coordinator for information specific to your institution.

- Personal information
- Academic information and/or transcript
- Answers to the following questions* (please limit each answer to 250 words or less):
 - What academic disciplines interest you? If you had the opportunity to design your own college class or course, what types of content would you want to include? What would be on your syllabus?
 - Why are you interested in learning more about graduate programs? What kinds of questions do you have about applying to and attending graduate school?

**Each campus coordinator may supplement and/or replace these questions to ensure the best process for each campus cohort.*

QUESTIONS?

The contact and campus-specific deadlines for GRADx applications are as follows:

ACM Institution	GRADx Contact(s)	Application Deadline
Beloit College	Jesse Carr	
Carleton College	Bill North and Marynel Ryan Van Zee	
Coe College	Katie Rodgers	
Colorado College	Lisa Schwartz	
Cornell College	Erin Davis	
Grinnell College	Albert Lacson	
Knox College	Sara Kitsch	
Lake Forest College	Ashley Sinclair	
Lawrence University	Kia Thao	
Luther College	Elizabeth Steding	
Macalester College	Karin Vélez	
Monmouth College	Kasia Bartoszynska	
Ripon College	Ed Wingenbach and Andrea Young	
St. Olaf College	Melissa Melgar	

You may also consult the Frequently Asked Questions page at www.ACM.edu/GRADx, or contact Brian Williams, ACM Vice President and Director of Faculty Development and Grant Programs, at bwilliams@acm.edu or 312.561.5922.