

Future Scholars Visitation Days Program Frequently Asked Questions

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1. How do I obtain an application?

The Future Scholars Visitation Day Program application is available on-line at <http://ugagrad.askadmissions.net/emtinterestpage.aspx?ip=application>

2. What constitutes an under-represented student?

The University of Georgia Graduate School defines students who are from historically underrepresented backgrounds as those who self-identify with an ethnic/racial group, income background or gender in a particular discipline that has not been traditionally represented in higher education. Under-represented also includes first generation and non-traditional age college students.

3. Am I still eligible for consideration for the Future Scholars Visitation Days Program if my application arrives after October 5?

We understand that some application materials, especially your academic letters of recommendation may take longer to reach us. This is fine. Please make sure that you submit your application form and personal statement, so that we will know to look for the remaining materials.

4. Do I need to submit all the listed documents to be considered for the Future Scholars Visitation Days Program?

Only complete applications will be reviewed as all materials will count toward your official graduate school application, if you are selected for the visitation program.

Please make sure your personal statement and letters of recommendation are written addressed TO THE DEPARTMENT you are interested in applying to, BUT still mailed to the Outreach & Diversity Office.

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5. What should I include in my personal statement?

Personal statements should be written according to the department specifics as detailed on the department website. Each department will vary, but in general, personal statements should address your academic/professional/personal experiences that have influenced your interest in the specific program. You should mention specific professors and projects in your desired department you would like to work on.

6. Who should write my letters of recommendation and what should they say?

Letters of recommendation should be written and mailed in sealed envelopes from three professors you have worked with/taken a class with. Professional letters are only appropriate if approved by your prospective academic department. Please verify with the department. All letters should reference why you are a good candidate for admission to a graduate program at UGA. Please contact your prospective department and confirm if a departmental recommendation form is required. You may email your application form and personal statement. Letters of recommendation and transcripts must be in sealed envelopes mailed to our office.

7. Do I need to register for the GRE prior to submitting my application?

The GRE requirement for the Future Scholars Visitation Day Program reflects the department requirements. If your prospective department requires the GRE, you must provide proof of registration to take the GRE by **October 19, 2012** to be considered for this program. If it is clearly stated on the departmental website that the GRE is not required for your program of interest then this requirement will be waived from the visitation application. You are encouraged to have this score (both general and subject tests) on record just in case you become interested in another department. If your prospective department requires another standardized test, please follow the same guidelines of reporting your test registration date (past or upcoming) on your visitation application.

8. Should students interested in law or business degrees apply for the Future Scholars Visitation Days Program?

The UGA Law School and MBA programs both offer upcoming visitation opportunities. Please visit their websites and consider attending, in addition to applying to our visitation program.

9. Can I arrive late or leave early?

The program is scheduled to begin late afternoon on **Sunday, November 4** and end early afternoon on **Tuesday, November 6**. In order for you to benefit most from this program, it is important to be present for the entire program. If you need to arrive up to 1-2 hours late or leave up to one hour early, this should not be a problem, if your reason is clearly explained in advance.

10. Can I bring a family member/friend if I am selected?

Visitors are required to make arrangements with the Georgia Center Hotel & Conference Center. Guests of the graduate school can receive a reduced lodging rate of \$79/\$109 per night. Visit <http://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/> for details! **Please Note: Visitors are not allowed to participate in the visitation program.**

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11. Should I apply for the Future Scholars Visitation Day Programs if my GPA is less than 3.5?

Acceptance into the visitation program and graduate programs in general at UGA is competitive. We encourage you to know that it is possible to be accepted to your program with your current GPA. UGA departments look at more than GPA for admittance, but GPA does have a strong bearing on consideration for admissions and graduate assistantships. You may want to consider providing a brief explanation in your personal statement regarding factors influencing your GPA.

12. My graduate application is already on file with UGA. What should I do?

Submit a completed Future Scholars Visitation Day Program application. Our office will simply need to verify receipt of your materials with our UGA graduate admissions office. We will notify you once they have been confirmed. While you have already sent your personal statement for your prospective department, we ask for an additional copy to be considered in our visitation program acceptance decisions. Please email, fax or mail a copy of your statement to our office. If you are selected to participate in the visitation program, you will receive partial reimbursement of the UGA application fee.

13. Can I attend class if I'm a UGA student participating in the Future Scholars Visitation Day Program?

All students, regardless of institutional affiliation, are required to fully participate in all program sessions.

14. What happens to my materials once they are received?

If you are selected to participate in the Future Scholars Visitation Day Program, all of your application materials will be automatically submitted to your prospective department. During the visitation program, you will receive feedback on your personal statement from UGA faculty and staff. If not selected, all materials remain on file in the Outreach and Diversity Office.