

item	subitem	High	Medium	Low
Academic Preparation (25%)	Physics Coursework	GPA \geq 3.7 (A-) in all core subjects: CM1&2, EM1&2, QM1&2, SM1, if not taken 2nd semester courses yet are they planning on taking them?	GPA \geq 3.3 (B+) in all core: CM1&2, EM1&2, QM1&2, SM1; OR GPA \geq 3.7 (A-) in CM1, EM1, QM1, SM1 if no 2nd semester courses taken	GPA \geq 3.7 (A-) in EM1 and CM1; GPA \geq 3.0 (B) average in other advanced courses; any grades <2.7 (B-) without explanation
	Math Coursework	Real and Complex Analysis, Group Theory with GPA \geq 3.5 (A) grades	DiffEq, Linear, and a Math Methods course, all with \geq 3.5 (A) grades; or more than this with GPA \geq 3.0 (B or A) grades	Bare bones math prep (e.g., up to DiffEq), or low grades regularly on math
	Other Coursework	Consistently 3.5 (A) grades	Consistently 3.0 (B) grades with nothing below a 2.5 (B-/C+)	One or more 2.5s (B-/C+)
	Academic honors and/or recognitions	multiple honors, e.g., Dept/University Honors; Phi Beta Kappa, etc	one academic award/recognition	No academic honors in college documented in the application
Research (25%)	variety/duration	two years in research	one year in research; only REUs	nothing more than coursework laboratories
	quality of work	multiple indications of excellence	clearly made significant contributions to the project	limited intellectual or technical contribution to projects; "button pusher"
	technical skills	a variety of experiment, theory, and/or computational skills	has developed only one class of skill (exp or theory or comp)	nothing more than coursework laboratories
	dispositions	clear commitment to and enthusiasm for research; AND understands what the process entails	clear commitment to and enthusiasm for research; OR understands what the process entails	not clear if they know what they are getting into with a PhD; seems lukewarm about research
Non-Cognitive Competencies (25%)	Achievement Orientation	Consistently strives to improve or meet a high standard of excellence in all areas	Has demonstrated a high standard of excellence in selected areas	No evidence of striving for excellence provided in application or student record
	Conscientiousness	Takes responsibility for personal performance, both the good and the bad; AND demonstrates efficiency and organization	Takes responsibility for personal performance, both the good and the bad; OR demonstrates efficiency and organization	No evidence of taking responsibility for performance AND minimal evidence of efficient, organized work
	Initiative	Consistently seeks out or acts on opportunities AND takes leadership	Consistently seeks out or acts on opportunities OR takes leadership	Has not sought out or taken advantage of opportunities AND does not have a record of leadership
	Perserverence	Application clearly describes successful coping with failures/ obstacles	Basic or perfunctory description of overcoming challenges	Application does not describe experience with failure/obstacles

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		Math Coursework	Real and Complex Analysis, Group Theory with GPA>=3.5 (A) grades	DiffEq, Linear, and a Math Methods course, all with >=3.5 (A) grades; or more than this with GPA>=3.0 (B or A) grades	Bare bones math prep (e.g., up to DiffEq), or low grades regularly on math

		Academic honors and/or recognitions	Dept/University Honors; Phi Beta Kappa, etc	one academic award/recognition	No academic honors in college documented in the application	
	Research (25%)	variety/duration	two years in research	one year in research; only REUs	nothing more than coursework laboratories	
		quality of work	multiple indications of excellence	clearly made significant contributions to the project	limited intellectual or technical contribution to projects; "button pusher"	
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