A Typical Application Timeline

Freshman & Sophomore years

Junior year Summer before senior year

Fall of senior year

Spring of senior year

Grades

Early research experience

Get to know profs & grad students

Grades

Research (apply for summer positions in Dec/Jan)

PGRE in April

Draft statements and get feedback

(P)GRE prep

Shop around for programs

Take (P)GRE in Sept/Oct

Apply for NSF GRFP in Oct

finalize where to apply in Nov

Applications due Dec/Jan

Visit schools

Make decisions by April 15

Consider the APS Bridge Program if you didn't get into any programs