

Comparing Graduate Schools Worksheet

Use this exercise to help you evaluate which school best suits your professional and personal needs.

Factor/Variable	Considerations	School A	School B	School C
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is research being conducted in your area of interest?			
Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Can I afford this?What is my ROI?Are there scholarships, assistantships and/or financial aid available?			
My Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Have I satisfied the admission requirements?			
Location and Size of School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Will studying here help me meet personal/professional goals?Can I see myself living here after graduation?Can I enjoy my “off-time” here?			
Reputation of School and Faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is image advantageous to my job search?			
Availability of Professors/Advisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Can I identify 2-3 potential advisors at the school?What is the faculty-student ratio?			
What Internships and Fellowships are available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This factor will require further research on your part			
Post-grad Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Where are graduates of this program working and do those jobs relate to your career goals?Percentage of graduates going into academia vs. industry?			