

Tips to Prepare for and Apply to Graduate School

The Value of Research & Ways to Get Involved

Value of Research

- Research involvement looks good to graduate schools
- Most significant way in which you can enhance your graduate school application
- Opportunity to present research at a conference
- Opportunity to get research published as a student
- Working relationship with faculty advisor can lead to a good letter of recommendation
- Working on a project with faculty and other students can be fun
- Opportunity to explore an area of interest in more depth
- Could serve as the basis for an undergraduate honors thesis
- Opportunity to learn whether you enjoy research
- Opportunity to learn new skills

Ways to Get Involved

- Talk about research opportunities with other students
- Talk about research opportunities with faculty advisor
- Talk about research opportunities with other faculty
- Attend psychology conferences
- Look for summer research opportunities nationwide
- Learn about faculty research interests from the department web page
- Consider research opportunities on campus but outside the Department of Psychology
- Volunteer to assist someone with ongoing research
- Develop your own research idea by doing an Independent Readings course
- Conduct your own research by doing an Independent Research course
- Translate your own research into an undergraduate honors thesis