How to Apply

It is important to read all directions carefully before proceeding with your graduate school application. Since all entry-level graduate courses are yearlong sequences beginning in the autumn, applications for admission are normally accepted only for Autumn Quarter. The application website opens around the beginning of September for admission the following autumn. All application materials must be received electronically by December 15 to be considered for admission for the following autumn quarter with financial support.

Deadline for applications requesting financial support:
December 15, 2019

Applications for admission without support can be accepted in principle until July 1, but we may have filled all available spots before then, so even if you don’t need support, it is a good idea to submit your application by December 15.

See also the pages about Admission Requirements and International Applicants.

The Mathematics Department accepts applications for Visiting Graduate Student status, but the application procedure is somewhat different; see the relevant page for more information.

Applications for admission with financial support are no longer being accepted. If you wish to apply for admission without support, please contact grads@math.washington.edu.

Application Materials

While completing the online application, all applicants will be asked to submit the following:

- **Unofficial Transcripts:** Information regarding all prior undergraduate and graduate institutions attended, including unofficial transcripts from the relevant institutions. (Admitted applicants will be required to provide official transcripts.)

- **Advanced Mathematics Courses:** Upload (in PDF format) a detailed list of all mathematics courses beyond the level of elementary calculus, differential equations, and linear algebra that you have taken or will take before you begin graduate work at the University of Washington. For each course, include the following information:
  - Course number and title
  - Grade obtained (for completed courses)
  - School
  - Instructor
  - Dates
  - Title and author of textbook(s) used
  - Material covered (about as much information as would appear in a college catalogue.)

- **Mathematical Background Questionnaire:** This questionnaire asks whether, and in what courses, you will have acquired familiarity with the following mathematical topics:
  1. Finite abelian groups
  2. Cosets and quotient groups
3. Unique factorization domains
4. Galois theory
5. Uniform convergence
6. Metric spaces
7. Compact sets, connected sets
8. Theoretical development of differentiation and Riemann integration
9. The inverse and implicit function theorems
10. Lebesgue integration

- **Resume or CV:** Upload a PDF to the application website. The following components should be included: employment history (including internships, research assistantships, teaching assistantships and teaching), special math programs you have participated in (such as Research Experiences for Undergraduates or Budapest Semesters in Mathematics), honors and awards, publications, special skills, and present position or activity.

- **Application Questions:** You will be asked to answer the following questions in your own words, and upload the answers in a PDF document. These questions are in lieu of the traditional “personal statement” or “statement of purpose.” Suggested length for each answer: 250 words or less.

1. Almost all of our graduate students are supported as Teaching Assistants. Do you want to apply for such support? If the answer is no, please briefly explain your plans for paying tuition and living expenses.
2. Why do you want to pursue a graduate degree in mathematics at the University of Washington?
3. (Optional) Describe a recent mathematical experience that excited you and spurred your interest in attending graduate school in math.
4. (Optional) What academic or scholarly experience has been most challenging for you, and how did you handle it?
5. (Optional) Describe how experiences in your personal history (family, educational, cultural background, economic background, prior work experience) have influenced your intellectual development, interests, career plans, and goals.
6. (Optional) Have you initiated or participated in activities that work to increase participation of underrepresented populations in the mathematical sciences?
7. (Optional) Is there anything else you would like us to know?

- **GRE Scores:** All applicants except those holding earned doctorates from accredited US institutions must submit official scores for the [GRE General Test](https://www.ets.org/gre) – verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing. In addition, the [GRE Subject Test in Mathematics](https://www.ets.org/exams/gre/aboutgre/gre-subject-tests) is required for PhD applicants, and can be helpful for Master’s applicants. You will be asked to self-report unofficial scores, but you'll also need to arrange for ETS to electronically send the official scores directly to UW using Institution Code 4854. (Department code is not required.) In order to meet the application deadline, you need to take the tests prior to December 1. Once your application is submitted, the official scores should appear within 48 hours.

- **Letters of Recommendation:** You will be asked to enter the names and contact information (affiliation, email, phone), for at least three letters of recommendation and to then activate requests for the letters of recommendation. Please ask your recommenders to submit their letters by December 20.

- **Application Fee:** There will be a nonrefundable $85 application fee required to process your application by the University of Washington Graduate School Admissions Office. You must pay online in order for your application to be complete. US applicants who qualify on the basis of need can request a fee waiver from the Graduate School as part of their online application, provided the application is completed at least seven days before the Math Department's December 15 deadline; see the Graduate School's [application page](https://www.washington.edu/gradschool/apply/) for more details. International applicants are not eligible for fee waivers.

**International applicants who are not native English speakers may also be required to provide:**

- **TOEFL Scores:** Please see [International Applicants](https://www.washington.edu/gradschool/apply/international/) for details regarding the English proficiency requirements for graduate admission and TA appointments. If you are required to submit TOEFL scores, request ETS to electronically send official scores to the University of Washington using Institution Code 4854. (Department code is not required.) In order for your scores to arrive by the December 15 application deadline, you need to complete the tests no later than December 1.