

**The Seven Steps:  
Guidelines for Those Considering Graduate School**

1. Create your own Board of Advisors. Ask junior faculty members for advice.
2. Consider each school's size and location. Look for a department large enough to have resources and small enough to give students attention.
3. Check out the faculty. Consider not just the famous professors but those who will actually be working with you.
4. Find out each school's rate of attrition.
5. Consider each school's rep. Rightly or wrongly, this will make a big difference when it comes time to apply for a job.
6. Don't buy into the myth that grad students have an endless supply of scholarship sources. Weigh the financial toll of graduate education against its potential value.
7. Start the application process early.

Paraphrased from "The Seven Steps." *CV Magazine* (n. d.): 30.