

# Foresight is 20/20: Applying to Graduate School

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## General Things to Know:

- START EARLY
- Work Smart
  - Consider the varying audition and application requirements of each school
  - Be strategic about which schools you apply to
- Plan ahead financially
  - Application fees
    - Ask about waived application fees
  - Travel expenses
    - Ask about lodging available with current students or community members
  - Matriculation fees
- Consider your audition schedule
  - Take a lighter load of spring classes
- Give consideration to the area in which you want to live
  - City VS College Town
  - Cost of living
  - Job availability

## Documents to Prepare:

Repertoire List:

- Comprehensive list of all pieces in your repertoire
- Typically organized alphabetically
- Consider indicating pieces performed and/or pieces memorized

Resume VS Curriculum Vitae:

RESUME	CURRICULUM VITAE
1-2 pages maximum	# > 2 pages
Professional highlights	Comprehensive overview
Showcases competence	Showcases credentials

Cover Letter (Statement of Purpose, Letter of Intent):

- Introduce yourself
- Explain why you're a good fit for the school
- Add narrative to your accomplishments
- Encourage reader to look at your resume/CV
- CHECK CAREFULLY FOR SPECIFIC PROMPTS

#### Letters of Recommendation:

- Think carefully about who you choose
  - 1 musical (applied teacher)
  - 1 professional/academic (boss or teacher)
  - 1 personal (boss, teacher, mentor)
- Provide your writers with as much prompting information as possible to ensure they write a letter that specifically addresses the needs of your application portfolio

#### **After Your Audition:**

##### Financial Aid:

- Ask in advance about financial aid opportunities at each school
  - Assistantships
    - STUDY, STUDY, STUDY
      - Theory and Ear Training
  - Scholarships
    - PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE
- Be prepared to appeal financial aid offers

#### **Contact Information:**

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