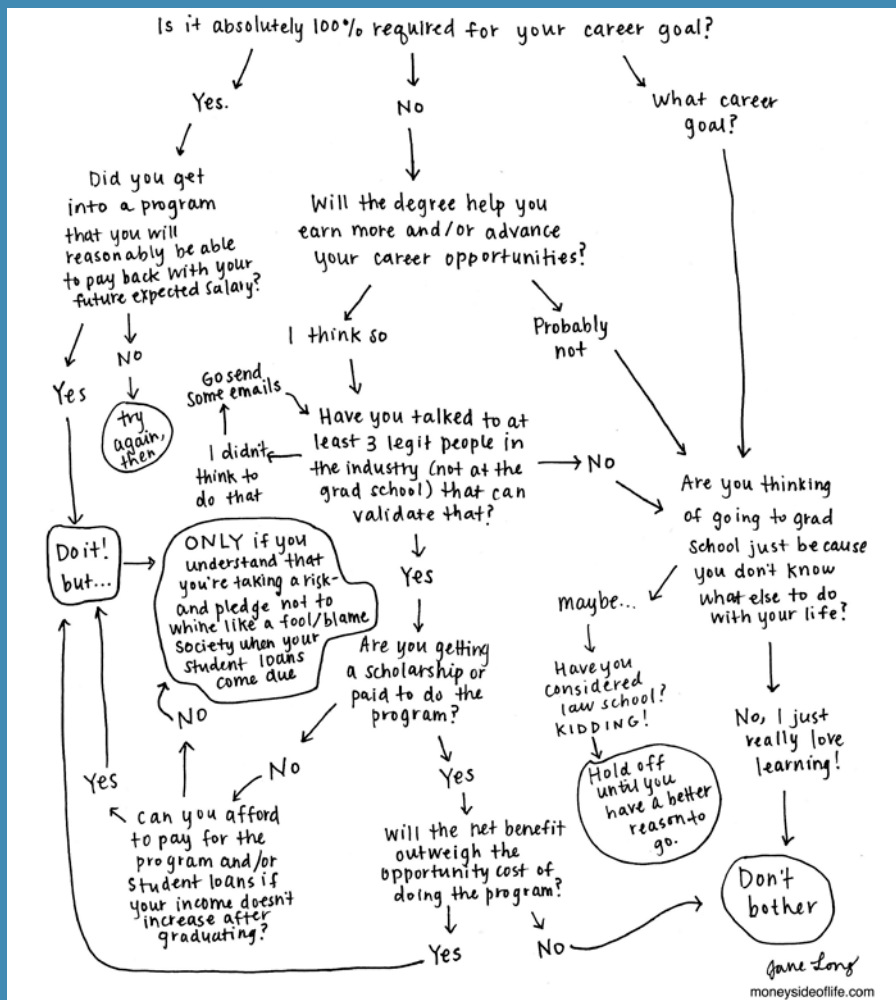


BEYOND PENN STATE:

Graduate school and post-graduate opportunities



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PennState

Is graduate school right for me?



What are you passionate about?



Do you already have a career in mind? Are you looking for training for that specific career?



Do you want to advance knowledge in your field?

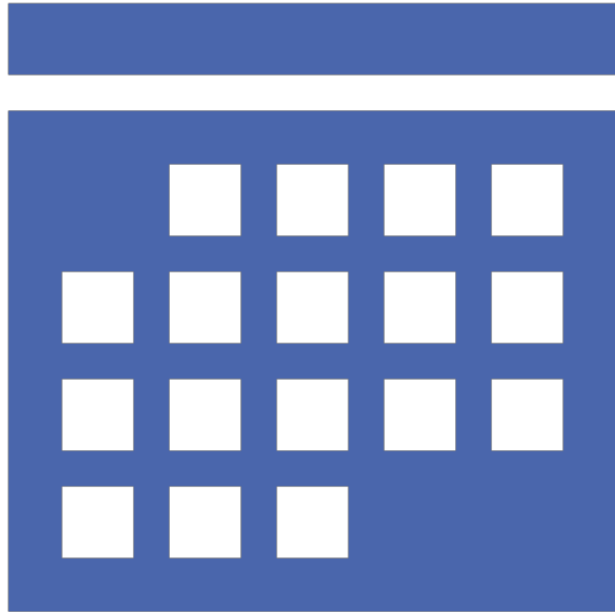


Are you comfortable passing up other opportunities that may be more lucrative in the short term?



What degree do I need?

- What is typical in your field?
- What does the degree offer you? Advanced coursework? Research training?
- In a field with both research and professional degrees, which works better for your career goals?



When should I go?

- Does work experience matter? What is typical in your field?
- Do students enter doctoral programs directly from undergraduate? Are Master's degrees completed separately from doctoral degrees?

How do I pay for graduate school?

- Internal support is often available for PhD students (and some MA, MS and professional degree students)
- At Penn State, students are supported through graduate assistantships (teaching or research), fellowships, traineeships, and scholarships
- *GAs, fellowships and traineeships usually include tuition and health insurance subsidy*
- Support most often comes from a student's college or program
- *Graduate funding is largely decentralized at Penn State*

First stop for questions: your adviser and your graduate program

How do I pay for graduate school?

- External support also exists!
- The federal government and a variety of private foundations and non-profit organizations provide financial support for graduate students

Resources for locating external funding



Penn State Graduate School's Office of Fellowships and Awards Administration (OGFAA)

<https://secure.gradsch.psu.edu/OGFAA/external/index.cfm>

Pivot from the Community of Science

<https://pivot.cos.com/session/login>

Search for “predoctoral fellowships”

Rutgers's Grant & Fellowship Database

<http://gradfund.rutgers.edu/>

External fellowships

NSF Graduate
Research
Fellowship

NIH National
Research
Service Award

Boren
Fellowship

HHMI Gilliam
Fellowship

Ford
Foundation
Fellowship

Smithsonian
Institute
Fellowship

Fulbright-Hays
Fellowship

And what if graduate school *isn't* right for me?

Consider applying for a fellowship

- Competitive merit- or interest-based award
- Opportunity to explore your interests outside of the classroom
- Application process promotes personal reflection and growth
- Stepping stone toward your future

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

- One-year program
- Available in over 140 countries
- Offers opportunity to design and conduct independent project, complete further study, or co-teach English
- *Requirements vary by country*
- Also offers opportunity to engage with the local community and develop cultural competences



Peace Corps



- Two-year program
- Available in over 60 countries
- Offers opportunity to immerse in a community abroad and tackle challenges related to agriculture, environment, community economic development, health, education, and youth in development
 - *Program requirements vary by country*
- Also offers opportunity to work with local leaders and develop cultural competences

Staying in
touch

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