APPLICATION PROCESS CHECKLIST

Following are the simple steps to apply for graduate study in Geography at the University of Denver. If you have any questions about the process, please contact the Office of Graduate Studies at gradinfo@du.edu.

☐ APPLY ONLINE / APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Applications for graduate study in Geography at the University of Denver must be submitted online. To apply online, visit: https://du-grad.edu.185r.net/application.
- All online materials must be submitted, and all supplemental materials must be postmarked, by the program’s stated deadline: For the PhD, MA and MS GISC programs, applications are accepted once a year. The deadline is January 15, for the fall quarter. All online materials must be submitted, and all supplemental materials must be postmarked, by the program’s stated deadline for financial aid consideration. For the MS in GISC online program, applications are accepted on a year-round basis. The Department will review applicants whose files are complete by May 20, for summer and fall quarter admission; September 20, for winter quarter admission; and, December 20, for spring quarter admission.
- A $65 non-refundable application fee is required for an application to be processed. Application fee waivers are available for McNair Scholars.

☐ COURSE AND DEGREE PREREQUISITES AND REQUIREMENTS

- Proof of a bachelor’s, and, if applicable, a master’s degree is required from a regionally accredited college or university.
- An appropriate undergraduate degree in geography or related discipline is normally required with a minimum GPA of 3.0. A master’s degree in geography or cognate discipline with a minimum GPA of 3.5 in graduate courses is normally required for admission to the doctoral program. If bachelor’s and master’s degrees are not in geography, the following prerequisites are required: introductory physical geography, introductory human geography, computer cartography, and geographic statistics.

☐ TRANSCRIPTS

- Applicants are required to submit an official transcript from each post-secondary institution they have attended, or are presently attending, where two quarter hours (or one semester hour) or more were completed including study abroad and college coursework completed in high school.
- The applicant is responsible for obtaining all transcripts. DU students and alumni do not need to provide DU transcripts. Applicants who have earned a degree outside the U.S. must submit transcripts accompanied by certified English translations, if not normally issued in English.
- Official study abroad transcripts are required unless the course titles, grades and credit earned abroad appear on another transcript. Transcripts from outside of the U.S. are evaluated by the Office of International Student Admission. This process can take three to four weeks and must be complete by the program’s stated deadline. Therefore, applicants with a degree from outside of the U.S. are encouraged to apply early. Applicants educated outside the U.S. are encouraged to contact the Office of Graduate Studies for assistance regarding transcript-related materials.
- The University of Denver will consider electronic transcripts official from a domestic institution provided by the following approved agencies: Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS); Docufide/Parchment; National Student Clearinghouse; Naviance; Royall and Company; and, Scrip-Safe.
APPLICATION PROCESS CHECKLIST (CONTINUED)

☐ Test Scores

- The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required of all applicants, with a combined score of at least 300 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the exam. Scores must be received directly from the appropriate testing agency by the program’s stated deadline. The institution code for the University of Denver is 4842.
- For the MS GISC online program only: applicants who have completed at least 12 hours in the University’s GIS certificate program, with a GPA of 3.5 or better, could waive the GRE requirement or the undergraduate GPA requirement, but not both. Students who have completed the certificate program can automatically waive the GRE requirement.

☐ Language Proficiency

- Official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) are required of all graduate applicants, regardless of citizenship status, whose native language is not English or who have been educated in countries where English is not the native language. Applications will not be processed until the required TOEFL or IELTS score is received. The TOEFL and IELTS scores are valid for two years from the test date. The minimum TOEFL score accepted by the Geography graduate programs is 88 (iBT) or 570 (paper-based). The institution code for the University of Denver is 4842. The minimum IELTS score accepted by Geography is 6.5. Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) must demonstrate fluency in spoken English by scoring a 26 on the TOEFL speaking section or 8.0 on the IELTS speaking section. Please see the Graduate Policy Manual for complete English language proficiency requirements.
- Applicants may be exempted from English proficiency test requirements if by the time of matriculation they have earned a post-secondary degree from a formally-recognized/accredited university where the language of instruction and examination is English. Such applicants may be exempt from the TOEFL/IELTS requirement but not from other standardized graduate entrance examinations.

☐ Personal Statement

- A personal statement of at least 300 words is required. The statement should be submitted via upload through the online application process. The personal statement should include information concerning your life, education, practical experience, special interests and specific purpose for applying to the University of Denver.

☐ Recommendation Letters

- Three letters of recommendation are required. These letters should be solicited and uploaded by recommenders through the online application system. Letters must be received by the program’s stated deadline.

☐ Financial Support

- To be considered for financial support, domestic applicants should apply early and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the priority deadline, February 15.
- Information about financial aid can be found on the Office of Financial Aid website (www.du.edu/apply/gradfinaid). International students are not eligible for federal financial aid.
- The department provides limited funding including merit-based aid, such as graduate scholarships and teaching assistantships, and need-based grant aid. Applicants who submit a FAFSA will be automatically considered for department funding opportunities.
APPLICATION PROCESS CHECKLIST (CONTINUED)

☐ Application Status

• We encourage you to be actively engaged in the admission process. You can check your application status online at https://webcentral.du.edu.

☐ Mailing Address

• Mail official transcripts and any supplemental admission materials not submitted with the online application to: University of Denver Office of Graduate Studies Mary Reed Building, Room 5 2199 S. University Blvd. Denver, CO 80208-4802

☐ International Applicants

• For complete international applicant information, please visit the Office of Graduate Studies International Student Application Information. International applicants are strongly encouraged to have their applications complete at least eight weeks prior to the program’s application deadline.

The Graduate Policy Manual (http://www.du.edu/media/documents/graduates/gradpolmanual.pdf) provides complete details regarding admission requirements.