



UNIVERSITY OF  
ARKANSAS  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

# SIIRE GRE Workshop


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Trevor Dodson



**SIIRE: Preparing for the GRE Seminar**

  
 UNIVERSITY OF  
**ARKANSAS**

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## Seminar Feedback

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**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**  
Please print  
 Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First M.I.

Student E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Male  Female    Current Classification:  Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior

Ethnicity (optional):  Native American  Black/African American  Asian/Pacific Islander  Multi-Racial

(Check all that apply)     Hispanic/Latino     White/Caucasian     Other \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please indicate your level of awareness for each questions:**

	Not Aware	Very Limited Awareness	Some Awareness	Average Awareness	Above Average Awareness
GRE (before workshop)					
GRE (after workshop)					
Graduate school as future option					

**Please indicate your perceived level of importance for each questions:**

	Not Important	Somewhat Not Important	Important	Somewhat Important	Very Important
GRE					
Graduate school					
Studying for the GRE					

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**I feel more prepared for the GRE since attending this workshop.**  
 Strongly Disagree     Disagree     ~~Neither~~ Agree or Disagree     Agree     Strongly Agree

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**I found attending this workshop beneficial.**  
 Strongly Disagree     Disagree     ~~Neither~~ Agree or Disagree     Agree     Strongly Agree

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**What were your expectations going into this seminar?**

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**What did you gain from attending this seminar?**

Help  
 Improve  
 this  
 Seminar!



**]** FALL - JUNIOR YEAR

- Compile a list of your top ten schools based on your areas of interest.
- Investigate financial aid options: fellowships, assistantships, and loans.
- Become familiar with admissions requirements—they vary by school.

WINTER - JUNIOR YEAR

- Narrow your list to top five schools for your area of interest.
- Visit campus of top five schools, and meet faculty and students.

SPRING - JUNIOR YEAR

- Send for application materials.
- Register for graduate tests required for your area of study.
- Begin preparing for graduate tests.
- Request letters of recommendation.
- Write draft statement of purpose.

SUMMER

- Obtain letters of recommendation.
- Request grade transcripts –send directly to schools.
- Finalize statement of purpose.

FALL - SENIOR YEAR

- Check application deadlines for schools to which you will apply.
- Take graduate admission (standardized) tests.
- Apply for national fellowships.
- Submit application materials.

SPRING - SENIOR YEAR

- Schedule confirmation visits to schools.
- Notify chosen college of your acceptance.
- Notify other colleges and financial aid providers if you are declining their offers.
- Make plans to move to new school—housing, banking, etc.



# Applying to Graduate School

- Four items get you started:
  1. Fill out the online application: <http://graduate-recruitment.uark.edu/applying/index.php>
  2. Pay the application fee.
  3. Submit transcripts from all colleges and universities attended since high school. There is no need to submit transcripts for course work taken at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.
  4. Submit GRE scores. School code is 6866.



# Application Review

- Your application is reviewed by the Graduate and International Admissions office. If you meet the requirements for admission into graduate school, your file will be forwarded to the department for an admission decision.
  - Minimum requirement for admission into graduate school is an earned baccalaureate from an accredited school with a 3.0 GPA on the last 60 hours of the degree, or a cumulative 3.0 GPA
- The program may have additional admission requirements:
  - Letters of recommendation, a personal statement, a resume



# How GRE Scores Are Used

- As part of the admission review
  - Some programs have established minimum scores that students must earn in order to be admitted into the program
    - Check with the graduate coordinator for the program, or
    - Check the program's web site
- When deciding which students to nominate for a Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship or Doctoral Academy Fellowship
  - There are minimum GPA and GRE score requirements
  - The fellowships provide a supplemental stipend of either \$22,000 per year for 4 years or \$12,000 per year for four years
    - Added to the graduate assistant package that includes monthly stipend, tuition waiver and health insurance premium discount



# GRE Not Required For:

- MS and PhD\* applicants to Electrical Engineering if the student holds a BSEE from the University of Arkansas
- Applicants to the online MS in Engineering
- MS and PhD\* applicants to Microelectronics-Photonics
- Applicants to the MSOM in Operations Management if the student received a 3.0 GPA or above on bachelor's degree

\*...unless you are hoping to be nominated for a doctoral fellowship



# Required Exams

- GRE – What we are going to focus on
- GRE Discipline Specific Test – Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology, Biology Chemistry, Math, Physics
- GMAT – Business School
- MCAT – Medical School
- LSAT – Law School





# What is the GRE?

the **GRE** exam is a broad assessment of your critical thinking, analytical writing, verbal reasoning, and quantitative reasoning skills — all skills developed over the course of many years.





Think GRE as...





# Registration Checklist

- Check the test [fees](#).
- Read the [reschedule and cancellation](#) policies.
- Read and understand the [ID requirements](#). You are responsible for bringing valid and acceptable ID when you report to a test center, and it must match the [name you used](#) when creating your account and registering for your test.
- Decide when you would like to take the test.
  - **Computer-delivered Tests:** The computer-delivered test is offered year round on a first-come, first-served basis. View [seat availability](#) for your preferred date and location.
  - **Paper-delivered Tests:** See [test dates](#).
  - Be sure to allow sufficient time for [score reporting](#) when scheduling your test so you can meet the admissions deadlines for the schools to which you are applying.
- Create an ETS Account to get the [most up-to-date test center information](#). Not all test centers are open on all dates.
- Determine which [graduate institutions or fellowship sponsors \(PDF\)](#) you want to receive your scores. As part of your test fee, you can designate up to four score recipients.
- If you prefer to send score reports later or want to send score reports to more than four recipients, you can [send additional score reports](#) for a fee.
- Learn about the FREE [GRE® Search Service](#) and how graduate and business school recruiters around the world use it to find prospective students. You will have the option to sign up for the Search Service when you register for the GRE General Test.

# Create Account



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Store Contact Us Search

[For Test Takers](#) | [For Institutions](#)

[ETS Home](#) > [GRE Home](#) > [General Test](#) > [Registration, Test Centers and Dates](#) > [Your ETS Account](#)

[ETS Account](#)

## ETS Account

### General Test

#### About the Test

#### Registration, Test Centers and Dates

[Registration Checklist](#)

#### > [Your ETS Account](#)

[The Name You Use When Registering](#)

[ID Requirements](#)

[Test Centers and Dates](#)

[Register for the Computer-delivered Test](#)

[Register for the Paper-delivered Test](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

[Reschedule/Cancel Registration](#)

#### Prepare for the Test

#### On Test Day

#### Scores

#### Frequently Asked Questions

### Subject Tests

Before you can register for a *GRE*<sup>®</sup> General Test, you need to create an ETS Account. In addition to using your account to register for a test, you'll also use it to:

- Sign up for the free *GRE*<sup>®</sup> Search Service
- View your scores
- View, change or cancel your registration
- Order Additional Score Reports
- Access the free *GRE* Diagnostic Service
- Purchase test preparation materials
- Choose to receive important notifications concerning your test and scores through text messages in addition to email

**Note:** If you already have an account for the *TOEFL*<sup>®</sup> or *Praxis*<sup>®</sup> programs, you can enter that user name and password as a returning user for your ETS Account.

## The Name You Use

You can create an account at any time, regardless of whether or not you plan to register for a *GRE* test. However, the name you use when you create your account will also be the name you use when you register for your *GRE* test, so it's important to make sure that it exactly matches the ID you plan to present on the day of your test. If it doesn't, you may be prohibited from taking the test or your scores may be canceled. Learn more about [The Name You Use](#).

[Create or Log In to Your ETS Account Now](#)

## See also:

- [The Name You Use](#)
- [Identification Requirements](#)



### [Send only your best scores.](#)

Show schools only the scores you want them to see — only with the *ScoreSelect*<sup>®</sup> option.

### [Start Preparing Today!](#)

Check out our FREE Official test prep then browse the ETS Store for our Official Practice Question Guides and more.

### [Try the \*GRE\* General Test for FREE!](#)

The official *POWERPREP*<sup>®</sup> II software is as close to the actual test as you can get and it includes two practice tests. Download it today for Mac<sup>®</sup> and PC use!

# My GRE Home




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## Important Notifications

- The GRE® test-taker portal is still experiencing some technical difficulties. We are continuing to work to resolve any issues and we regret the inconvenience that this is causing our customers.

## My Tests

 [Register / Find Test Centers, Dates](#)

### Upcoming Tests

There are no upcoming tests scheduled.

- [View All My Tests](#)

## Test Preparation

- [Free Test Preparation](#)
- [Shop for Test Preparation](#)
- [My eBooks and Services](#)

## Getting Ready for Test Day

- [Identification Requirements](#)
- [Test Center Procedures and Regulations](#)

## Scores

- [View Scores and Score Recipients](#)
- [Send Additional Score Reports](#)
- [GRE Diagnostic Service](#)

## Orders

- [View My Orders](#)

## Test Takers with Disabilities or Health-Related Needs

[More Information](#)

[GRE Accommodation Application Status/New Request](#)

Try a practice GRE General Test for free and see how you'll do on the test before you take it! Download the official [POWERPREP® II](#) software today.



# Find Test Centers & Dates

Complete the information below to find available test centers and dates.

If you have an advance reservation code, you may [schedule your test appointment with the advance reservation code.](#)

Please select a test

GRE General Test

**Be sure to select General test for engineering**

Find test centers at or near this location:

Fayetteville, AR, United States

Find test dates within this two-month period:

September 2016    October 2016

Restricted Reservation Code (Optional):



Find available test centers and dates



# Find Test Centers & Dates

GRE General Test | Fayetteville, AR, United States | November 2016 - December 2016

[View Your Accommodations](#)

[Change search criteria](#)

**By Date** | **By Distance** | [Refine Search Results](#)

**November 2016**

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**December 2016**

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Seats available |  No Seats available |  Selected Date

Show distance in  mi  km

**November 19, 2016 - Saturday**

**1** ETS - UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS - APCN-7553  
University of Arkansas - Testing Services, 97 N. Razorback Road, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville Arkansas United States 72701 1.3 mi.

[Computer](#) | [Directions](#) | [Hide Test Times](#)

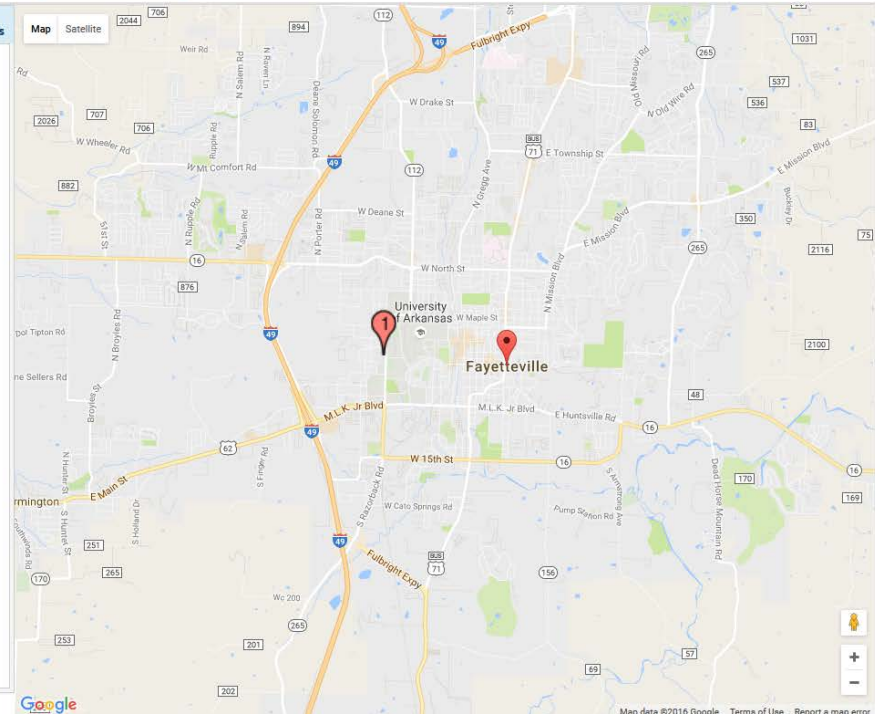
12:30 PM  Seats Available [Register](#)

**December 07, 2016 - Wednesday**

**1** ETS - UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS - APCN-7553  
University of Arkansas - Testing Services, 97 N. Razorback Road, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville Arkansas United States 72701 1.3 mi.


[Computer](#) | [Directions](#) | [Hide Test Times](#)

No Seats available





Test	GRE General Test (Computer)
Test Date/Time	Friday November 18, 2016 - 12:30 PM
Test Center	ETS - UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS (APCN-7553)

 [Edit Test Information](#)

## Before You Register for a Test

Before you schedule a GRE appointment online, please review the following information and indicate your agreement to the policies below. After agreeing to the policies below, you may be asked to sign in to your GRE account or create an account if you do not already have one.

### Accommodations

If you have a disability or health-related need and require testing accommodations, you must request accommodations through ETS before scheduling your appointment. See how to request accommodations.

### Testing Policies

By checking the box below, you agree to the policies set forth on the GRE website and in the *GRE Information Bulletin*, specifically those concerning test administration, payment of fees, the reporting of scores, the confidentiality of test questions and the reschedule and cancel policies. You also certify that you are the person who will take the test at the center and whose name and address appear in this registration. Also review the ETS Terms and Conditions, Privacy and Security Policy and ETS Privacy and Information Security Policy for Test Takers.

I understand and agree to the testing policies and terms and conditions above.

[Back](#)

[Cancel](#)

[Next](#)





# Complete Personal Information

Use information on official documents



# Opt In/Out



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## GRE Search Service

Participating in the GRE Search Service (the "Service") is FREE for you as a GRE test taker or someone considering graduate or business school study. The Service matches prospective graduate students with participating graduate and business schools and fellowship sponsors. If you match the recruitment profile of a participating institution/organization, you may receive information about their graduate or business programs, fellowships, financial aid opportunities, and other graduate education opportunities, and by signing up for the Service you give ETS permission to share your information with participating institutions/organizations. By opting in below you also agree that you may receive information regarding other products and services from ETS. If you participate in the Service, your background information, contact information and, if you have taken a GRE test, the broad score ranges in which your test scores fall will be added as criteria to the Service database. Information provided to / participating schools does not include individual GRE test scores. To learn more about the Service, visit [www.ets.org/gre/stusearch](http://www.ets.org/gre/stusearch).

Information provided to participating schools about you may include any of the following:

- personal information - address, gender, ethnic background, citizenship, native language, telephone number, and e-mail address
- educational/employment background - current educational level, overall UGPA, UGPA in major, undergraduate major, years of post-graduate full-time work experience, and GRE test date
- educational objective - intended graduate major field, preference of full-time or part-time graduate study, degree objective, preferred geographic region for graduate study, planned date of enrollment, and preferred method of study

Your broad GRE score bands (e.g. score ranges) in combination with undergraduate grade point average may be part of search criteria but will not be released to any participating school.

If you choose to participate in the Search Service and decide to unsubscribe at a later date, you may do so at any time by contacting GRE Search Services at [gre-info@ets.org](mailto:gre-info@ets.org) or 1-609-771-7670.

### Preference

- Yes, I would like to register for the GRE Search Service, and agree to the above.
- No, I would prefer not to register for the service at this time.

Back

Cancel

Next

# Pay for Exam



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Fees are stated in U.S. dollars. Fees effective July 1, 2017.

Standard Test Administration ( <i>GRE</i> <sup>®</sup> General Test)	
Australia	\$230
China	\$220.70
All other areas of the world	\$205

Special Handling Requests	
Late registration fee (paper-delivered test online registration only)	\$25
Standby testing (paper-delivered test only)	\$50
Rescheduling fee — China	\$53.90
Rescheduling fee — All other areas of the world	\$50
Changing your test center	\$50

[https://www.ets.org/gre/revised\\_general/about/fees](https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about/fees)



# GRE Breakdown

## Structure of the Computer-delivered GRE General Test

Section	Number of Questions	Time
Analytical Writing (One section with two separately timed tasks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ One "Analyze an Issue" task</li><li>■ One "Analyze an Argument" task</li></ul>	30 minutes per task
Verbal Reasoning (Two sections)	20 questions per section	30 minutes per section
Quantitative Reasoning (Two sections)	20 questions per section	35 minutes per section
Unscored or Research Section*	Varies	Varies

\*An unidentified unscored section may be included and may appear in any order after the Analytical Writing section. Additionally, an identified research section that is not scored may be included in place of the unscored section, and it is always at the end of the test.



# GRE Score Overview

## Verbal Reasoning

- Score scale 130-170
  - 170 = 99%
  - 151 = 51%
  - 145 = 26%

## Analytical Writing

- Score scale 0.0-6.0
  - 6.0 = 99%
  - 5.0 = 93%
  - 4.5 = 82%
  - 4.0 = 59%
  - 3.5 = 42%

## Quantitative Reasoning

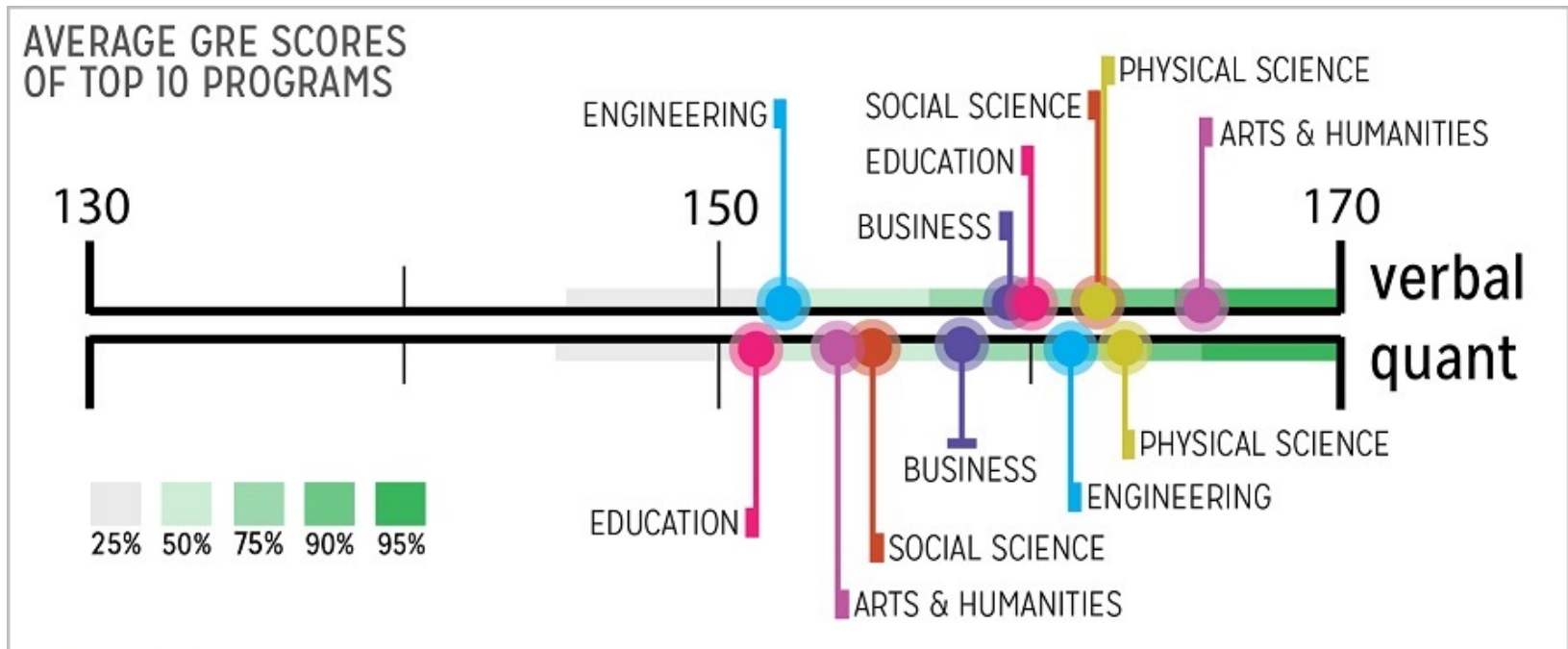
- Score scale 130-170
  - 170 = 97%
  - 153 = 51%
  - 147 = 24%

Verbal and Quantitative scores are scaled in 1-point increments

Analytical Writing scores are scaled in ½-point increments



# What is a good score?





# A good score is the score that gets you where you want to go!

For top graduate programs in engineering:

- Princeton reports that its average GRE scores for admitted students are 161 V and 162 Q.
- Harvard showed that its average scores for successful applicants to the engineering program are 161 V, 165 Q, and 4.3 AW.
- USC's averages in engineering are 155 V and 159 Q.



# Study Schedule

- 1 Week
- 1 Month
- 2-3 Months
- 6 Months

<http://magoosh.com/gre/gre-study-plans-and-guides/>





# Study Resources

- ETS
- Lynda.com
- Kaplan
- Manhattan Prep Books
- Barron's GRE Prep
- Apps – Illustrate, Pocket GRE Math, Magoosh GRE Prep: Math, Verbal & Writing Videos, GRE+
- Local Libraries – University Library has 5 GRE Books available to checkout



# ETS Study Pricing

Test Preparation	
<a href="#">POWERPREP™ Online</a> : Preparation for the Computer-delivered GRE General Test	FREE
<a href="#">Practice Book for the Paper-delivered GRE® General Test, Second Edition (PDF)</a>	FREE
<a href="#">Math Review (PDF)</a> — including links to Khan Academy® instructional videos	FREE
<a href="#">Math Conventions (PDF)</a>	FREE
<a href="#">POWERPREP PLUS™ Online</a> — Two official practice tests (sold separately), each containing a different set of never-before-published real test questions	\$39.95
<a href="#">The Official Guide to the GRE® General Test, Third Edition</a>	\$40*
Official GRE® Guide Mobile App	\$4.99
<a href="#">Official GRE® Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions Volume 1, Second Edition</a> (available in paperback, also available at many bookstores)	\$20*
<a href="#">Official GRE® Quantitative Reasoning Practice Questions Volume 1, Second Edition</a> (available in paperback, also available at many bookstores)	\$20*
<a href="#">Official GRE® Value Combo (eBook Only)</a> — includes the <i>Official GRE® Quantitative Reasoning Practice Questions, Volume 1</i> , and the <i>Official GRE® Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions, Volume 1</i>	\$37
<a href="#">Official GRE® Super Power Pack</a> — includes <i>The Official Guide to the GRE® General Test</i> , the <i>Official GRE® Quantitative Reasoning Practice Questions</i> and the <i>Official GRE® Verbal Reasoning Practice Questions</i>	\$72
<a href="#">ScoreItNow!™ Online Writing Practice</a>	\$20

- [https://www.ets.org/gre/revised\\_general/about/fees](https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/about/fees)



# Some Tips From a Student

- Used Barron's GRE Prep book, Manhattan Prep Books, and Kaplan GRE Prep notecards
- Take diagnostic tests in Barron's books. Then study weakness. Then take another test.
- Barron's book comes with CD and 2 practice tests.
  - Take test on computer because this is how it will be done and is different than paper test
  - Use only the materials you will have on the day of the test
- Manhattan Prep books are subject specific. Get the ones associated with your weak subjects.
  - Register your book and get access to 6 practice computer GRE exams and a calculator similar to what is allowed on the exam
  - You might look at their practice GRE book (thousands of questions)
- Kaplan GRE Prep notecards gets you access to an App
- Look for online databases of GRE writing prompts
- Lynda.com has a GRE prep video series. Free for UA students.



# What's Next?

1. Writing English proficiency test: ([international students only](#))
2. Shortlisting universities: select universities based on **your** profile, area of interest, budget, reputation, market value etc. (6-10 universities to be safe)
3. Undergraduate transcripts: The schools you are going to apply to will ask for your academic records from the institution you received/pursuing your undergraduate degree from.
4. Writing a statement of purpose: Graduate schools usually require an essay outlining your interests and reasons behind pursuing graduate studies. This is considered a pivotal aspect of your application and calls for investing time.
5. Getting letters of recommendations: You might be asked to provide letters of recommendations (usually three) from either your professors during your undergraduate studies or from your colleagues if you are a working professional.
6. Completing the online application process: You might be asked to upload your statement of purpose and the scanned copy of your transcripts during the online application process.
7. Sending GRE scores to the university via ETS: (TOEFL if you are an international applicant)
8. WAIT!: It usually takes one to three months for the universities to make a decision regarding your application.



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# Interactive Discussion



# Get into groups of 3 or 4

- Write down 2 to 3 GRE studying tips
- Select a representative to share tips



# Questions

- Graduate students' GRE experiences