

Dear MGIS Applicant:

Thank you for requesting information on the Master of Geographic Information Science (MGIS). This letter details our admissions deadlines and the application submission process; ***please read it carefully***. The deadline for Fall admission is January 30th; the deadline for Spring admission is September 1st. We recommend that students applying for Spring admission have some previous GIS experience since many introductory courses are only offered in the Fall term. Please do not submit an application if you are unable to submit the application fee. Graduate School policy requires that we do not review any application for which the fee is unpaid. It is not possible to waive this requirement.

To apply to the Graduate School, please submit your online application using the ApplyYourself system accessible at:
http://www.grad.umn.edu/prospective_students/apply_online.html .

Please submit the following materials to the *Geography Department*:

- MGIS Application Form
- Personal Statement (e.g., relevant background, career goals, objectives, GIS interests)
- Transcripts (photocopies acceptable)
- 3 letters of recommendation
- TOEFL Score (for non-native English speakers)

Although we accept photocopies of TOEFL scores, any admission would be subject to the submission of official scores to the Graduate School from ETS.

Return these materials directly to:

Susanna McMaster
Associate Program Director
Department of Geography
University of Minnesota
414 Social Sciences Building
267 19th Avenue South
Minneapolis MN 55455

Remember that you must submit the appropriate materials to BOTH the Graduate School and the Geography Department. Failure to do so will delay the processing of your application.

Please note that due to the professional nature of this program, *there is no financial aid associated with it*. Unless students have independent or employer support, they are expected to find their own source of funding. Many MGIS students are successful at finding GIS-related internships and jobs in the Twin Cities area. At the beginning of the semester, there are many positions available on campus (see postings at <http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/employment/index.html>), but these positions are competitive and may often only extend for a single semester.

International students who receive a Form I-20 (F-1) or DS-2019 (J-1) based on admission to this program will be required *to maintain full time enrollment* (6-14 credits per semester) and *will be subject to the rules and regulations that pertain to the F-1 or J-1 student visa status*. International students should contact the International Student and Scholar Services office to determine the work-related rules that pertain to them.

Please feel free to contact me for further information or to check on the status of your application.

Sincerely yours,
Susanna McMaster, Ph.D.
Associate Program Director, MGIS
Department of Geography