

- 1. Do I have a clear understanding of what I want to do?**
 - A. Yes, I'm pretty sure!
 - B. Somewhat
 - C. Not really
 - D. I don't know
- 2. Does my ideal career require an advanced degree?**
 - A. Yes, in most cases
 - B. Sometimes
 - C. Not usually
 - D. I'm not sure
- 3. What are my plans for financing graduate school?**
 - A. I have already developed a financial plan
 - B. I don't have a finalized plan, but I have done some research into fellowships, scholarships and loans
 - C. I know that it will be expensive, but don't know how I will pay for it
 - D. I haven't thought about finances at all
- 4. Am I prepared for 2-7 more years of schooling?**
 - A. Absolutely!
 - B. Maybe
 - C. No way!
 - D. I haven't thought about it
- 5. How would I describe my time-management skills?**
 - A. I always work ahead
 - B. I tend to manage my time well, though there are times when I get off track
 - C. I'm a bit of a procrastinator
 - D. What time management skills?
- 6. Does the field I want to go into or the program I am interested in prefer work experience before getting an advanced degree?**
 - A. Yes, and I do have experience OR No, people tend to go straight from undergrad to graduate school in my field
 - B. It is preferred, but I don't have experience
 - C. It is required, but I don't have experience
 - D. I'm not sure
- 7. What are my motivations for going to grad school?**
 - A. I know what I want to do, and getting an advanced degree will help me achieve my goals
 - B. It might help me in achieving my career goals
 - C. I'm not ready to enter the workforce
 - D. I don't know what else to do
- 8. Have I researched the degree I want?**
 - A. Yes
 - B. Just a little
 - C. Not really
 - D. I don't know what degree I want yet
- 9. How do I feel about the subject I am going to study?**
 - A. I can't get enough of it!
 - B. It's okay
 - C. It's pretty dull
 - D. I don't know what subject I am going to study
- 10. Can I afford to give up a full-time working salary to attend graduate school?**
 - A. Yes, probably
 - B. Maybe
 - C. Probably not
 - D. I'm not sure

Scoring: Am I Ready for Graduate School?

Add up the number of A's, B's, C's, and D's that you selected and record those numbers below:

A's _____ B's _____ C's _____ D's _____

Circle the letter that you have the most of and read about your group below:

Mostly A's:

Graduate school is likely the best choice for you! Having done your research, you have found out that graduate school will benefit your career by making you a stronger candidate in your field. It's recommended that you begin looking into the next steps that will prepare you to be the best candidate possible for the programs you're interested in.

Recommended Next Steps:

- Visit your career and academic advisors to discuss graduate school options
- Speak with faculty in your department to find the best program for you
- Research the application process for your programs
- Visit the Writing Center to discuss your writing sample and personal statement
- Take the appropriate graduate school exam
- Meet with a Career Advisor to discuss your resume or CV

Mostly B's:

It is unclear whether graduate school is the right fit for you. If you conduct some more research, you should be able to find out. Consider everything from whether you have the commitment to your subject to be in school for 2-7 more years to whether you can afford graduate school right now. You may consider taking a few years off before graduate school to get some hands-on experience in your field.

Recommended Next Steps:

- See a Career Advisor
- Speak with faculty or advisors in your department
- Find a mentor in your field to learn more about the pros and cons of going to graduate school
- Visit Financial Aid
- Browse www.Petersons.com to look into potential schools and programs

Mostly C's:

Graduate school may not be the best fit for you. Consider your other options. Have you looked into internships or full-time positions in your field? Take the time to plot out your possible career routes, both with and without graduate school, to determine which path will be the best fit for you.

Recommended Next Steps:

- Meet with a Career Advisor to discuss your career path
- Go to HatterJobs to look for jobs or internships in your field, and visit a Career Advisor to polish up your resume
- Connect with a mentor in your field

Mostly D's:

You likely do not have enough information at this point to decide whether graduate school is right for you. Because you have not yet done much research into graduate school, that may be a good place to start. You should consider looking more into the requirements for your ideal career field, as well as information about specific graduate programs you may be interested in. Upon doing some additional research, reflect on what you've learned about yourself and again assess whether or not graduate school will be beneficial for you.

Recommended Next Steps:

- See a Career Advisor
- Speak with faculty or academic advisors in your major
- Find a mentor in your field to find out more about the pros and cons of going to graduate school
- Visit Financial Aid to discuss how you could possibly finance graduate school
- Browse www.Petersons.com to learn about potential schools and programs