



GRE

Assess Ability. Predict Performance.

When **choosing** from a wealth of candidates, how can you tell **who's right** for your graduate program?



Assess
ability and
predict
performance
with the
GRE® tests.

www.ets.org/gre



Will your graduate school candidates succeed?

The GRE® tests can help you assess their ability and predict performance.

For nearly six decades, the GRE tests have played an important role in the graduate admissions process

Developed and administered by ETS, the GRE (*Graduate Record Examinations*®) tests assess academic knowledge and skills relevant to graduate study — and give you the information you need to carefully evaluate your applicants.

Convenient and cost-effective

The GRE tests provide candidates:

- **Easy access to testing** through an extensive network of more than 1,000 test centers in more than 165 countries
- **An affordable option** — test prices are substantially lower than other graduate admissions tests
- **Additional support**, including assistance with test fees to those with demonstrated financial need, free test preparation materials, and the ability to send scores to four graduate institutions at no extra cost

The GRE General Test — the preferred admissions test for thousands of graduate programs worldwide

Taken by more than 550,000 students each year, and with score reports delivered to more than 3,100 graduate institutions annually, the GRE General Test:

- measures the skills that faculty and graduate deans consider **essential for graduate school success**
- provides **the only common measures** for comparing the qualifications of applicants from different educational backgrounds and countries of origin
- furnishes **independent information** to supplement the evaluation of grades and recommendations

The GRE General and Subject tests — reliable, research-based predictors of graduate school success

As confirmed by an independent study of 82,000 graduate students and a meta-analysis of more than 1,700 studies, the GRE tests provide a **valid predictor of graduate school performance** in areas such as:

- first-year graduate GPA
- overall graduate GPA
- comprehensive exam scores
- publication citation counts
- faculty ratings

The GRE General Test has also been proven to show better predictive validity than undergraduate grades and letters of recommendation, and correlates positively with degree attainment and research productivity.

The GRE Tests at a Glance

	GRE General Test	GRE Subject Tests
Test Format	Computer-based testing available at ETS-authorized test centers Paper-based test*	Paper-based tests
Test Dates	Continuous testing for computer-based test; paper-based test administered 2 times per year	October November April
Test Length	Computer-based test: 3 hours, 15 minutes Paper-based test: 3 hours, 45 minutes	2 hours, 50 minutes

*Offered in areas where computer-based testing is not available.

The GRE General Test

The GRE General Test contains three sections that assess knowledge that has been acquired and developed over a long time.

Verbal Reasoning: Assesses the ability to analyze and evaluate written material and synthesize information obtained from it, analyze relationships among component parts of sentences, and recognize relationships between words and concepts. Content is balanced among the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.

Quantitative Reasoning: Tests basic mathematical skills and understanding of elementary mathematical concepts, as well as the ability to reason quantitatively and solve problems in a quantitative setting. Content is balanced among questions requiring arithmetic, algebra, geometry and data analysis.

Analytical Writing: Tests critical thinking and analytical writing skills, as well as the ability to articulate and support complex ideas, analyze an argument and sustain a focused and coherent discussion.

The GRE Subject Tests

Each Subject Test deals with content emphasized in undergraduate programs as preparation for graduate study in the field. Tests are offered in eight fields of study:

- Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Literature in English
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Psychology

“*The graduate community has looked to this examination as an important means of helping it achieve its goals of fairness and access to graduate education.*”

Isaac Colbert
Former Dean for Graduate Students
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Reporting and Using GRE Test Scores

Using GRE Test Scores

Scores on the GRE General Test permit comparison of the reasoning skills of all applicants who took the test. The GRE Subject Tests measure achievement in a particular field of study and provide an additional measure of applicants' preparation for graduate school.

Many factors play a role in the admissibility and success of a graduate student. GRE scores are only one element of this total picture and should be considered along with other data. For this reason, the GRE Board:

- believes that GRE scores should never be used as the sole basis for an admissions decision
- discourages the use of cut-off scores
- has adopted a statement regarding the fair and appropriate use of GRE scores, which can be accessed at www.ets.org/gre/greguidelines

For more information on using scores:

Download these publications at www.ets.org/gre/edupubs:

- *The Value of the GRE*
- *Guidelines for the Use of GRE Scores*
- *Guide to the Use of GRE Scores*
- *Recent Predictive Validity Analyses of the GRE General Test – A Summary from ETS*
- *Subject Test Fact Sheets*

“It's the only real objective test that we have to predict the potential success of students coming into our programs.”

Carol Lynch
Faculty Associate with the Provost
University of Colorado at Boulder

Score Reporting and Score Scales at a Glance

	GRE General Test	GRE Subject Tests
Scores Reported	Verbal Quantitative Analytical Writing	Total score Subscores available for 3 Subject Tests (Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology; Biology; and Psychology)
Score Scales	Verbal: 200-800, in 10-point increments Quantitative: 200-800, in 10-point increments Analytical Writing: 0-6, in half-point increments	Total score: 200-990, in 10-point increments Subscores: 20-99, in 1-point increments
Scores Sent to Designated Recipients and Test Takers	Computer-based test: 10-15 days Paper-based test: 4-6 weeks	4-6 weeks

Services for Institutions

The following GRE services are available to institutions:

Annual Survey of Graduate Enrollment www.ets.org/gre/research

The GRE Board and the Council of Graduate Schools sponsor an annual survey of graduate enrollment and degrees.

CriterionSM Online Writing Evaluation Service www.ets.org/criterion

The *Criterion* service can help students prepare for the Analytical Writing section of the General Test. This web-based learning tool lets students compose and submit responses to GRE Issue and Argument Tasks for immediate scoring and feedback.

GRE Institutional Summary Statistics Reports www.ets.org/gre/issr

These reports provide information on the GRE test performance of graduating seniors, unenrolled college graduates or prospective graduate students, enabling you to compare your institution or department to others across the nation.

GRE Search Service www.ets.org/gre/search

This web-based recruitment tool provides current, targeted mailing lists of students who have demonstrated interest in graduate studies. New enhancements include the ability to search by GRE test scores in combination with undergraduate GPA.

GRE Test Preparation Workshops for Campus Educators www.ets.org/gre/tpworkshops

These one-day workshops provide in-depth information on how to prepare students to do their best on the test, and how to organize and give test preparation workshops on campus.

“*The test itself is helping us as test users to identify the intellectual skills that we see as associated with real success.*”

Suzanne Ortega
Vice Provost for Advanced Studies and Dean of the Graduate School
University of Washington, Seattle



Become a GRE Score User

It is easy to become a GRE score recipient. Graduate schools can apply online at www.ets.org/gre/gregradcode. Business schools can apply online at www.ets.org/gre/grebuscode.

Accredited undergraduate and graduate institutions and non-degree-granting organizations that award graduate fellowships are eligible for consideration as score recipients. The GRE Board retains the right to make exceptions to this policy in special circumstances.



Services for Test Takers

GRE Fee Reduction Program

www.ets.org/gre/grefeereduction

ETS offers a limited number of GRE fee reduction vouchers — on a first-come, first-served basis — to U.S. citizens or resident aliens who meet eligibility requirements. Individuals meeting the eligibility requirements will be required to pay 50 percent of the full test fee.

Fee reduction vouchers may be used for one General Test and/or one Subject Test. Eligibility for participation in the fee reduction program is limited to one time only. Thereafter, the full test fee will be charged.

GRE Test Preparation Materials

www.ets.org/gre/tpresources

All test takers are mailed free test preparation materials when they register to take a GRE Test. These materials, and a variety of other comprehensive tools and services, are available on the GRE website.

GRE Search Service

www.ets.org/gre/stusearch

The GRE Search Service matches prospective graduate students with participating graduate schools and fellowship sponsors. Students who match the recruitment profile of a participating institution/organization may be sent information about graduate programs, admission requirements, financial aid opportunities, fellowships and other graduate education opportunities.

Students are given the option to register for the Search Service when they register for a GRE test, or they can register for the Search Service on the GRE website.

“*Trying to decide who’s fit to attend our graduate programs is a very difficult undertaking. There have to be some standard indicators that can be used across the board. The best that we’ve had for many decades has been the GRE Test.*”

Isaac Colbert

Former Dean for Graduate Students
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The GRE Board and Committees

The GRE testing program is governed by the GRE Board, whose members include graduate deans appointed by the Association of Graduate Schools and the Council of Graduate Schools. The Board strives to provide equal opportunities in higher education, improve the practices, procedures and quality of graduate education, and promote the full use of human talents and resources. The Board establishes all policies for the GRE Program, and through its standing committees, oversees important aspects of the program, including:

- **Research:** establishes long-range planning strategies related to research and monitors the progress of all research projects
- **Services:** monitors all GRE operating services, maintains a close relationship with graduate students and faculty and identifies long-range planning strategies involving the development of new services
- **Minority Graduate Education:** identifies and recommends new services, monitors ongoing minority-related GRE programs and evaluates research proposals and ongoing research projects that affect minorities

Research Reports from the GRE Board

Research reports in the areas listed below are from the *Graduate Record Examinations* Board's Research Program and are free to download.

www.ets.org/gre/research

- *Predicting Success in Graduate Education*
- *Analytical Writing Measure*
- *Measurement Issues*
- *Minority and Special Population Issues*
- *Developing New Assessments*
- *Flow of Talent into Graduate Education*
- *Other Research*

“ETS does some of the best research in the country on testing. They conduct research for the GRE Board to help refine the GRE test and document that it is a valid test for predicting success in graduate school.”

Kurt Geisinger

Director, Buros Center for Testing and W. C. Meierhenry Distinguished University
Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

An Ongoing Commitment to Test Quality and Validity

ETS, with support and guidance from the GRE Board, continues to apply innovative assessment practice in order to increase the validity of the test, provide faculty with better information on an applicant's performance, maintain the highest levels of security and make better use of advances in technology and psychometric design. For the most up-to-date information on pending enhancements to the GRE program, visit www.ets.org/gre.



How can you tell who's right for your program?

Assess ability and predict performance with the GRE tests.

We're here to help.

To learn more about the GRE General and Subject Tests:

Visit: **www.ets.org/gre**

Call the GRE Academic Help Line: **1-609-683-2002**

E-mail: **gretests@ets.org**

About ETS

At nonprofit ETS, our mission is to advance quality and equity in education for all people worldwide. We do this by:

- Listening to educators, parents and critics
- Learning what students and their institutions need
- Leading in the development of new and innovative products and services

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