

## Readmissions and Admissions Following Completion of the Master's

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Special considerations apply to students who spend a significant amount of time in the graduate program, withdraw in good standing, and then apply for readmission. Because the usual admissions materials and deliberations are intended to predict whether a student will succeed in the program, they are normally not relevant to decisions about readmission. Instead, the student's prior record in the program provides the primary information used to make that determination. Consequently, students applying for readmission need only submit three letters of recommendation and a statement of research interests; GREs and transcripts not required. Typically, the three letters will be from the student's former supervisory committee or other members of the faculty. Students who withdraw in good standing, have positive letters of recommendation, and for whom a suitable supervisor can be found would normally be regarded as "admissible" under our graduate selection procedures. (See [Graduate Selection Procedures](#).) If a student is admissible and does not require funding (e.g., if the student seeks readmission merely to defend his or her thesis), he or she would normally be recommended for admission. If funding is required, the student must also be "competitive" (in the language of our graduate selection procedures) relative to other applicants in the year in which they apply. Students applying for readmission should generally have priority in that assessment. However, admission is not guaranteed, and the admissions committee may consider the time since withdrawal, the student's previous performance in the program, and the submitted application materials (i.e., letters of recommendation and statement of research interests) in deciding whether an application for readmission is competitive.

Readmitted students must normally satisfy the program requirements in place at the time of readmission. However, the Associate Chair for Graduate Studies, in consultation with the student's supervisory committee, may approve a revision those requirements based on the student's particular circumstances.

A readmitted student's year in the program normally includes the time spent in the program previously. However, if some adjustment is appropriate, a suitable recommendation may be made at the graduate student evaluation meeting in the spring (see [Student Evaluation Procedures](#)).

Students who withdraw after spending only a brief period in the program (e.g., 1-2 terms) are considered as new applicants if they reapply.

In keeping with FGSR's procedures, a student who wishes to continue in the PhD program after successfully defending a Master's thesis must reapply to the program. However, such students are normally admitted automatically (and are not considered by the Graduate Selection Committee) unless a different course of action has been expressly approved by the Graduate Student Evaluation Committee. The Department normally pays the application fee for such students.

**Revision History**

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