

What Are My Grad School Options?

DEGREE TYPES

Professional Master's Degree

Time Commitment:	1-2 years full time
Educational Content:	Practical training, skills, and integrated experience in a narrow field/industry
Examples:	MEng, MPH, MBA, MSMS, etc.
Other Considerations:	Usually a final degree

Research Master's Degree

Time Commitment:	1-2 years full time
Educational Content:	Research training, experience, and independent study in narrow field/industry
Examples:	MS, MSCR, MA, etc.
Other Considerations:	Can be a final degree or a step towards a PhD

Professional Doctoral Degree

Time Commitment:	3-5 years full time
Educational Content:	Deep technical and theoretical training for a specific profession
Examples:	MD, DJS, etc.
Other Considerations:	Usually a final degree

Research Doctorate or PhD (Doctor of Philosophy)

Time Commitment:	4-6+ years full time
Educational Content:	Deep research and theoretical training with independent study in a specific field
Examples:	PhD, EdD, etc.
Other Considerations:	Usually a final degree culminating in a dissertation

ACADEMIC FOCUS

University Specific Programs

Conduct an inclusive search for your particular interest. Universities categorize majors and programs differently based on the nature of the departments and researchers. For example: BU affiliates medical devices with the BME department, while other institutions affiliate it with mechanical engineering.

Faculty Research

Find faculty who conduct research that aligns with your interests. A critical part of graduate school is exposure to faculty research. Familiarize yourself with the research focus at different institutions to find programs that you prepare you for your desired path.