

- \* What degree do I want to get and why?
- \* What subject do I want to focus on and why?
- \* Where do I want to go what kind of university, what kind of department, locations where I want to live for a few years?
- \* Is grad school for me?

- \* Essay(s), personal statement, letter of intent - describing what you're interested in, why that institution, who you might want to work with
- \* Recommenders & their contact info: ok to ask them "Do you feel you can give me a strong letter of recommendation?"
- \* Transcripts
- \* CV/Resume
- \* GRE (if required)

People you might want to talk to when considering grad school & doing research on different graduate degree programs...

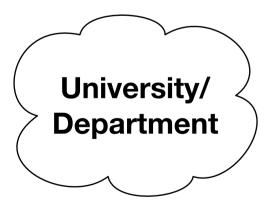
> Director of Graduate Studies (DGS)

> > **Program Manager**

Department Faculty

**Current Students** 

Alumni



\* Deadlines vary, make sure you know what the deadline is & if they have any priority deadlines

\* Applying can be expensive, but many institutions have waivers of application fees if you need a waiver

## Worth considering

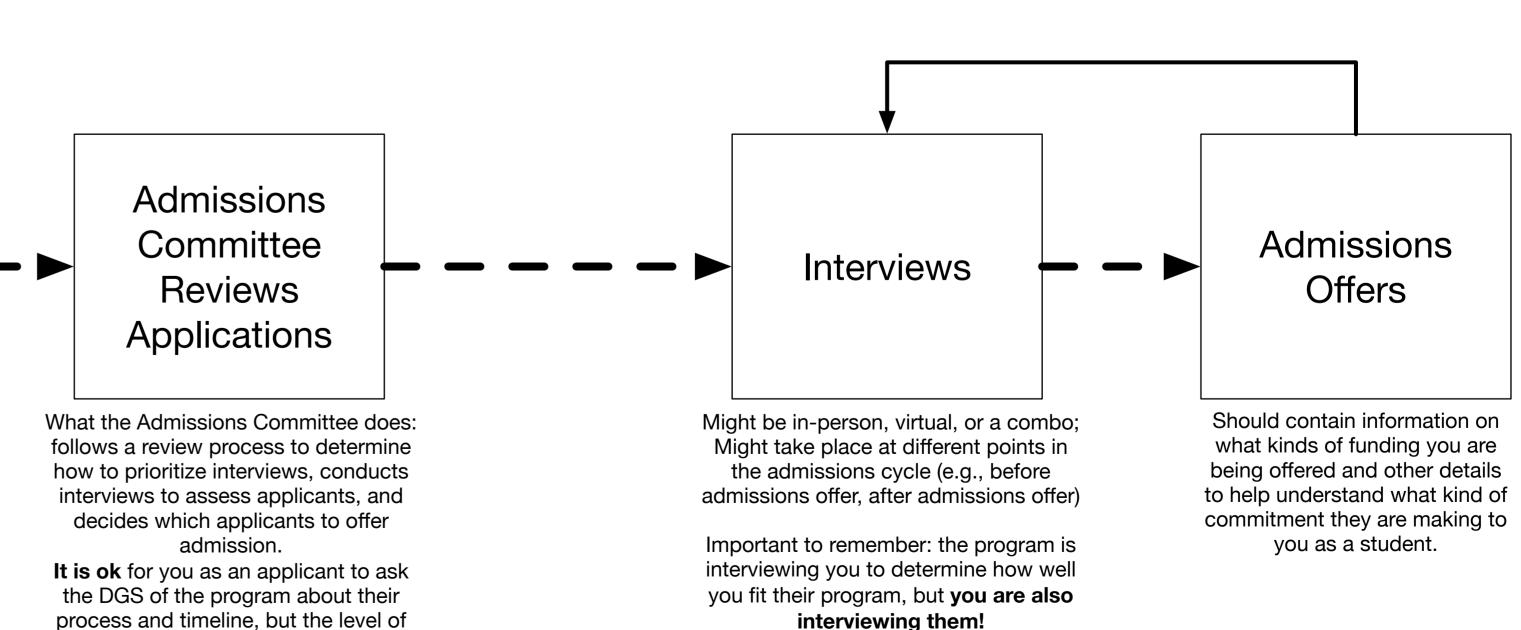
Funding programs like NSF GRFP that you can apply to at the same time you're applying to grad school. (See https://www.nsfgrfp.org for more info.)

# \* Do your research: review information on the people you'll be interviewing with (research interests, publications), this helps with coming up with

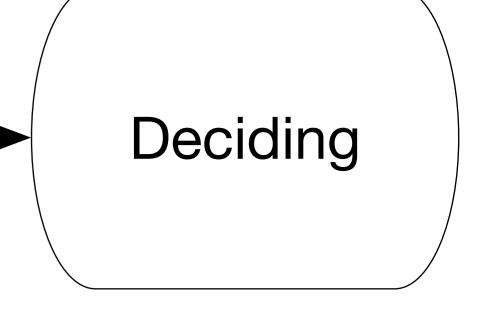
questions for them and shows you're interested \* Prep **your** questions - interviews are dual purpose, for the program to learn about you and for you to learn about

the program and environment \* Timing of interviews varies between programs - some programs make offers and then do interviews to determine funding, others do interviews before offers

# **Grad School Applications Process Overview**



process and timeline, but the level of detail they share will vary.



### If you get an admissions offer from a program...

- \* Think about the match between you and your goals and... the faculty available as mentors, the program requirements, the culture of the program, the courses you'll take, and any other specific details about a program that are important to you
- \* Review the funding that is available with the position in detail, so you're very clear on what is being offered
- \* Spend some time thinking about your goals and if the program is a fit for what you want to do
- \* All grad schools have a common decision date (April 15) and programs must give you that time to decide, but you can decide before that date