COVID-19’s Impact on Graduate School Admissions

All Live-Event Comments

12:11:11 From Julia Cornish: If you miss out on conference and presentation opportunities because of Covid-19, how can you make up for that on your graduate application?

12:12:20 From Emma Romaker: Does the GRE apply to students applying for fall 2021?

12:12:25 From amy: Will the GRE part of the application be removed for graduate students starting in the fall of 2021?

12:13:04 From amp572@drexel.edu: Do you expect the pandemic and its consequences (economic and otherwise) to impact the competitiveness, size, etc. of your applicant pool for the upcoming cycle?

12:13:10 From Egbe: How would graduate school interviews work?

12:13:27 From abrea ramadan: do all graduate schools require a GRE score?

12:14:00 From Egbe: Is the subject psychology GRE score required?

12:14:27 From Darlis Juvino: @abrea ramadan Not all graduate schools require GREs, but they may suggest you take it.

12:14:30 From hannahlindstrom: What about job shadowing that may be required for some grad schools, are these hours still required?

12:15:22 From Darlis Juvino: @Egbe It depends on the graduate school and program, some require it and others suggest you take it but it is not mandatory. It depends

12:15:33 From Jack Mizrahi: For those schools that are being more understanding regarding GRE, does that refer to those attending this fall or applying?

12:16:28 From Rebecca: Is there any change in findings given to PhD. students?

12:16:41 From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella): findings?

12:16:53 From Julia Cornish: funding

12:16:53 From Amalia Tobias: If students are deferring their admission from fall 2020 until fall 2021 due to COVID, it sounds like that will make admission for new students more competitive in the class entering in the fall of 2021, is that true?

12:16:58 From Rebecca: sorry…fundings

12:17:14 From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella): Thank you for the clarification!
12:17:36 From amy: How will research with participants be different for PhD or masters graduate students in the upcoming year/years

12:17:51 From Xiaoyi Cui to Eric Landrum (Privately): Hi Prof. Is this conversation video will be uploaded to psi chi?

12:17:53 From Egbe: Will funding be limited from significant revenue losses? How will that effect the number of students offered a position in programs?

12:19:00 From Egbe: Thank you @Darlis Juvino

12:19:16 From abrea ramadan: pending the turnout of the remainder of the year … will grad programs be online?

12:19:26 From Darlis Juvino: @Egbe No problem :)

12:20:18 From abrea ramadan: Also, if an out of state student applies to a graduate program and gets accepted how would that work? would the program just continue online?

12:23:28 From Egbe: The University of Cambridge recently announced it will be continuing remote learning until the Summer of 2021. Are other universities considering this option?

12:28:24 From Grace: Will working experience as a school counselor count as an advantage as PhD. admission?

12:30:38 From Amy Wachholtz: Out of state vs in-state tuition costs may vary from program to program. So check closely as to the rules around these if as a 1st year student you chose to not move to the state.

12:32:48 From Kaitlyn Larkin: Where will the recording of this be shared after?

12:33:08 From Kayla Hughes: Do the requirements of the Graduate Program applications differ depending on the University they are held in? Do different universities hold different requirements and guidelines for their graduate programs?

12:33:59 From Kayla Hughes: What aspect of the graduate process is considered the most important? It is more essential to get a high score on the GRE or to seek out letters of recommendation from professors at your University?

12:34:34 From Jack Mizrahi: Is the APA imposing anything regarding the apa accredited schools acceptance?

12:36:01 From Darlis Juvino: @Kayla Hughes It depends on the university. Some graduate programs will say that they have a holistic approach so they look at the overall student than necessarily the grades on your transcript or GRÉs only. Some schools tell you and others don’t. I think the best way is to get in contact with admissions of that school to confirm how their approach to admissions is. Hope that helps.
12:36:02 From Jack Mizrahi: It's seems like what's being discussed is graduate school internships. I know many PhD programs wants students to have experience. My internship this summer was cancelled. Will graduate schools be understanding of that

12:36:41 From Katie Twyman: Among changes in IRB review practices and considering the recent emphasis on telehealth, do you anticipate increased opportunities for Bachelors-level researchers working at a distance? I would imagine the amount of research work available outside of grad school may impact people’s decisions on when to apply.

12:39:03 From Kayla Hughes: It does, thank you Darlis Juvino. How should one enter the process of applying for graduate programs? Should they enter the process with any expectations of acceptance into the program they desire, or should they expect a few cases of rejection before getting into the program they seek to enter?

12:39:38 From Charlene Wu: Will international applicants for the next cycle be even worse since it’s more expensive to fund them?

12:40:00 From Charlene Wu: impacted worse*

12:41:25 From abrea ramadan: If you are an undergraduate student graduating in Spring of 2021, what do you guys advise for when to apply to graduate school?

12:41:27 From Amalia Tobias: Does anyone have any information about Psy.D programs? Would this differ from PhD programs due to the tuition cost?

12:41:32 From Isabel Fitzpatrick: Thank you Regan Gurung… I have been feeling slightly discouraged, and feeling like throttling back as you say, but your comments are helpful.

12:41:44 From Darlis Juvino: With the expected increase in applications this fall for the next cycle (Fall 2021), in your opinion, how could a student position themself so they are a more favorable candidate?

12:44:26 From Darlis Juvino: @Kayla Hughes Anytime :) You’ll need to go to the website of each graduate program you’d like to apply to and figure out what you need to submit and by when (what deadline). It was not easy to get into a program pre-COVID so I think it is safe to say to make sure to apply to a handful of programs to increase your chances of getting into one.

12:45:13 From Joshua Abston: Echoing Julia's question from earlier "If you miss out on a conference and presentation because of Covid-19, how can you make up for that on your graduate application?"

12:45:39 From John McGill: Students coming in with a MS or MA already in a related clinical field, could potentially be affected by this if they were looking to gain supervision hours towards licensing, etc.
From Julia Cornish: Thank you @Joshua

From Nichole H.: For incoming grad students, how do you plan to make sure that you are making sure that you are getting to know them as you would in a face to face, but online?

From Charlene Wu: Would you recommend applying to masters programs instead of a PhD program and then go on to a PhD afterwards given the increasingly competitive pool for the next cycle?

From mlujan: Prestige aside, would it be safer to apply for a Psy-d program instate instead of out-of-state? The risk of being sent home from a costly out-of-state school seems to be a looming issue that no one is quite sure about.

From abrea ramadan: @Charlene Wu — I love that question!! Thank you

From Lucretia Dunlap: @Joshua + Julia if your presentation was accepted before the conference was canceled, you can still include it on your cv. https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/canceled-conferences?fbclid=IwAR2JDaqRPPpS3n9o-QQDMOMV2ChCm7iz6DBVb7wfi_uX44UdFpLK6JA4

From Egbe: Did the conference offer an online virtual repository? I was not able to present in person at the Southeastern Psychological Association conference so they created a virtual conference so that students could upload their posters and get credit towards graduate school.

From Kaitlyn Larkin: Thank you very much for the recording information!

From Julia Cornish: @Lucretia Dunlap Thank you@

From Lucretia Dunlap: @Julia Cornish no problem! :)

From Katie Twyman: @charlene wu and @mlujan Masters and PsyD programs typically offer very different funding if any, so I would imagine you would have to be prepared to pay significant tuition costs if applying to programs outside of PhDs.

From Tom Harrison: I know this is a unique application scenario, but my question is about what the admissions team may be emphasizing most in an application review. Will the shift move to more to clinical experience and educational success (e.g., GPA) versus a GRE being lower on the evaluation pole?

From John McGill: Have to catch another meeting, thank you @Everyone for doing this today. Looking forward to the recorded version in a few days. Stay safe :)
12:51:20  From Eric Landrum: Here is a link for how to cite your conference presentation that you not able to present: https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/canceled-conferences

12:51:28  From emilyrandle: ^yes I have a similar question as well as my clinical-like internship has been cancelled and I’m interested how the cancellation of undergrad internships may affect admission to a graduate school.

12:52:03  From Julia Cornish: I am adding an extra year to my undergraduate education. What would be a good minor to compliment my B.S. in Psychology as a graduate applicant in Covid times.

12:52:09  From Joshua Abston: Thank you @ Eric Landrum and Lucretia Dunlap

12:52:30  From Regan A. R. Gurung: @Julia human bio is a good one or public policy

12:53:32  From Egbe: @Julia Foreign Language Minor is good

12:53:42  From Darlis Juvino: @Julia Cornish I would think about what research you would like to conduct in the future and base your minor on that. So if it is Cultural Psychology or Development, maybe Sociology would compliment it. If it is Clinical Psych than Biology would be good.

12:53:49  From Julia Cornish: @Dr. Gurung Thank you!

12:54:20  From Julia Cornish: Thank you @ Darlis Juvino

12:54:37  From Darlis Juvino: @Julia Cornish No problem :)

12:54:57  From Makayla: I know some schools offer partial to full tuition coverage for graduate students. With the financial impact of covid, could out of state students have a less likely chance of being considered or accepted into a school when compared to in-state students?

12:55:33  From Martha Zlokovich: for saved version of this webinar, it will be at:


12:56:12  From Isabel Fitzpatrick: Great points, Melanie, thank you!

12:56:27  From Darlis Juvino: @Martha Zlokovich Thank you!

12:57:09  From Julia Cornish: @Egbe That is an excellent suggestion.

12:57:17  From Julia Cornish: Thank you

12:57:35  From Egbe: @Julia :)

12:58:03  From Eric Landrum to Lindsey Root Luna(Privately): Hi Lindsey!!

12:58:23  From Lindsey Root Luna to Eric Landrum(Privately): Hi Eric!! Thanks for doing this! :) And great to see you!
12:59:43 From abrea ramadan: You all have been so helpful. Stay safe and healthy :). I look forward to watching the rest of this webinar.

13:00:00 From Darlis Juvino: Could a student market/consider their undergrad senior thesis as research experience?

13:00:19 From Regan A. R. Gurung: @Darlis ABSOLUTELY

13:00:40 From Darlis Juvino: @Regan A. R. Gurung Thank you!

13:01:00 From Amy Wachholtz: Absolutely, if it was an empirical study and there may be "bonus points" if you are able to present it (IRL or virtually) at a conference somewhere

13:01:29 From Ireland Bebee: Thank you for your time and advice! This has been extremely helpful and I can't wait to watch the rest.

13:01:51 From Darlis Juvino: @Amy Wachholtz Right! Good point, thanks!

13:02:05 From Julia Cornish: @Darlis thank you for your question. What a great idea.

13:02:15 From Emma Kiely: If this question was asked already I apologize (I joined a bit late) - any recommendations on finding virtual research opportunities? My in-person research program was cancelled this summer and I have been scrambling to find a replacement, but I have had extreme difficulty finding remote opportunities in the area of psychology.

13:02:28 From Katie Twyman: If you have a unique idea for research with a nonprofit org, bring that idea to them! As someone with a background in the nonprofit sector, I bet they would love it!

13:02:50 From Julia Cornish: @Dr. Gurung and Dr. Wachholtz Thank you!

13:02:53 From Jack Mizrahi: I'm also looking for virtual research opportunity

13:03:04 From Tom Harrison: For students who currently have a masters degree who are looking to apply to a PhD program is that taken as an advantage in viewing the application or are some programs concerned with that based on training students may have already been given in some graduate capacity?

13:05:10 From Julia Cornish: @ Dr. Zlokovich I have not seen that area on the Psi Chi website. Could you tell me where to locate the International Research, please?

13:05:33 From Egbe: I want to go into the area of trauma but my research experience has not touched on that field. However, I do have a writing sample based on trauma. Will that be taken into consideration during the admissions process?

13:07:22 From Eric Landrum to Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella)(Privately): I loved your smile while I was asking that question.
13:07:35 From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella) to Eric Landrum (Privately): :)

13:09:33 From Regan A. R. Gurung: @Egbe. Grad schools will look at your potential to do good work and realize that not everyone has the opportunity to work on a topic that they want to go into for their careers.


13:10:08 From Darlis Juvino: Could a undergrad student be ambitious to try and collaborate or work with a potential professor they would like to work with at a graduate school? Or should undergrad students only try to work with, to gain research experience, with their senior sponsors/psych professors?

13:11:07 From Regan A. R. Gurung: @darlis most profs at grad schools owe their allegiance to developing their own grad students and undergrads so it is a better bet to start at your own school.

13:11:28 From Lucretia Dunlap: @Regan Gurung I wasn't the one that brought that up, but I'd like to thank you for that response as none of the research I've done is related to the topic I want to focus on in grad school. It did make me a little concerned that it would be a question mark on my application materials.

13:11:36 From Darlis Juvino: @Regan A. R. Gurung Right, makes sense. Thank you.

13:12:15 From Eric Landrum: For more about NICE at Psi Chi: https://www.psichi.org/page/Res_Opps#.Xsgj3Dl7mUk

13:12:55 From Kaitlin Chau: Thoughts on undergrad students who graduate in 3 years?

13:13:17 From Egbe: Thank you so much @Regan A. R. Gurung.

13:14:37 From Frances Hampton: Kiss of Death...Isn't that specific to the field you are applying to? For example: I/O Psychology seems to screen GRE's before they ever entertain your CV/research/work/GPA's, etc.

13:15:19 From Regan A. R. Gurung: @Kaitlin most of us do not look at how look at how long it took but look at your credentials (also good answer for people who took 6 years).

13:16:22 From Daniel Brennan: If I graduated in three years this past May and was planning on applying for Fall 2021, but I am unable to gain a research coordinator position due to Covid and hiring freezes, does that hinder my application?

13:16:22 From Kaitlin Chau: @Regan A. R. Gurung that makes complete sense, thank you.
From Regan A. R. Gurung: @Daniel it all depends on what else you already have.

From Isabel Fitzpatrick: Could you please elaborate on “good fit” with your faculty advisor? Especially considering the previous point that students’ research experience doesn’t need to align exactly with the research of the faculty member.

From Lauren Borato: Thanks for these insights! When you talk about fit, how closely does your research interest need to match? Exact same topic area or same methodologies or tools/questionnaires or equipment (ex - fmri)? Or similar work personalities? Thank you.

From Lucretia Dunlap: Before Covid, the interview process was very social heavy (ie. several days of social hours). However, I assume due to this crisis, the interviews will be virtual and more streamlined. What differences to the interview process do you think there will be? What things should applicant's focus on to prepare for interviews?

From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella): @Isabel, good fit can be just knowing what the faculty member that you’re interested in working with and that fitting with what you want to do (e.g., knowing their research articles, specific methodologies; thinking of how you would extend their research/scholarship).

From Amy Wachholtz: It would include 1) you know what the faculty member expertise is, 2) how your experiences overlap with the faculty member, 3) do you have any demonstrable way that this topic is of interest to you (e.g. conference attendance, took an elective course, etc).

From Daniel Brennan: If I am applying to clinical phd program but i have research experience in applied behavior analysis, does that hinder my graduate application?

From Darlis Juvino: Yes, thank you panelists!

From Isabel Fitzpatrick: Thank you so much @Melanie and @Amy!

From Frances Hampton: I have a group of Psi Chi students who are interested in connecting with I/O psychologist. Does anyone have any ideas on how students can build these connections to be better prepared or fitted to a program.

From Julia Cornish: Thank you so much for offering this webinar. We appreciate all of your time and knowledge.

From Eric Landrum: Make sure students who are interested in I/O psychology are aware of the Society for Industrial Organizational Psychology, https://www.siop.org/
13:28:04 From Frances Hampton: will acceptance into grad programs be affected due to COVID and funding issues? Do you all predict that admission acceptance will be low in general due to pandemic?

13:28:13 From Charlene Wu: Are international applicants impacted more negatively in terms of their chances of getting in PhD programs because of funding cuts for fall 2021?

13:29:15 From Eric Landrum: Do you think he transcribed the Constitution from cursive to typewriter?

13:29:21 From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella): I know I’m first in your heart Scott!

13:30:07 From Egbe: Are any of the panelists members of any psychological organizations other than PSI CHI?

13:30:42 From Makayla: I know some schools offer partial to full tuition coverage for graduate students. With the financial impact of covid, could out of state students have a less likely chance of being considered or accepted into a school when compared to in-state student applicants?

13:30:47 From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella): @Egbe, yes! National Latinx Psychological Association, Division 12 (Clinical), Division 17 (Counseling), and Division 45 (Race, Ethnicity, Culture). APS and APA.

13:32:29 From jenny: Can you give advice on what to include in an email? Is it important to include your CV?

13:33:16 From Lindsey Root Luna: Many thanks for this excellent event! I’ll look forward to reviewing the recording!

13:33:43 From Martha Zlokovich: Division 52 International Psych; SPIM Society for Psychologists in Management

13:34:53 From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella): @jenny a CV is a very nice addition!!! Make sure that is has all the relevant information that profs will be looking for (clinical, teaching, research experiences as opposed to working at T.J.Maxx).

13:35:41 From Amy Wachholtz: APA Div 28 (psychopharm), 36 (spirituality), 38 (health), 52 (international); Society of Behavioral Medicine & International Society of Behavioral Medicine

13:35:58 From Lauren Borato: Thank you!

13:36:04 From Egbe: Thank you @Melanie Domenech Rodriguez and @Martha Zlokovich
13:36:11 From jenny : @Melanie thank you for your response!! Any advice on how to open an email?

13:36:17 From Martha Zlokovich : Division 2 Teaching of Psych

13:36:30 From Julia Cornish : Thank you @Dr. Rodriguez

13:36:56 From Daniel Brennan : For graduate applications how do you express your research interests without pigeon holing yourself in a specific topic, but expressing your fit with the professor?

13:37:02 From Martha Zlokovich : currently Past President of SPIM; treasurer of Division 52; past president of Psi Chi Board

13:38:53 From Lucretia Dunlap : Thank you panelists for your time and willingness to help! I look forward to watching the rest of the panel when it's uploaded.

13:38:59 From Daniel Brennan : How do you share your research interests with the professor you are applying to, if you have several research interests that are related but not super specific? Do you have to be super specific in your research interests when applying?

13:39:37 From Egbe : Thank you panelists for sharing your organizational experiences

13:40:36 From Eric Landrum to Scott VanderStoep(Privately) : Your view of the screen is called functional fixedness.

13:43:57 From Martha Zlokovich : APA has a sub-organization just for grad students, APAGS. I believe APS is for all students.

13:44:00 From Katie Twyman : I’ve had a lot of luck with ABCT and then connecting with special interest groups. It’s also an awesome way to meet grad students who want to shepherd you.


13:44:10 From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella) : ABCT is great!

13:44:22 From Regan A. R. Gurung : A lot of stand alone conferences now too (e.g. SPSP, SBM)

13:44:23 From Martha Zlokovich : APS has APSSC (APS Student Caucus)


13:46:52 From Katie Twyman : ABCT is Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Technology, for those who may be unaware.

13:47:13 From Katie Twyman : Sorry therapy, not technology.
From Julia Cornish: @ Dr. Gurung Thank you for the Twitter suggestion and A Member Since...

From Scott VanderStoep to Eric Landrum (Privately): We need to wrap it up.

From Kaitlyn Hay: Thank you, all!

From Nichole H.: THANK YOU!

From Grace: Thank you for sharing!

From karlapatricia: Thank you!

From Olufemi Oluyedun: This was incredibly helpful! Thank you all so much!

From mlujan: THANK YOU ALL

From Kaitlin Chau: Thank you so much, this eased a lot of my worries and makes me look forward to the future!

From Martha Zlokovich: https://www.psichi.org/page/learningresources

From kylie goebel: Thank you everyone!!

From Ben Barnette: Thank you panelists for your very helpful insights!

From Garo: Thank you all for the generous sharing, much appreciated!

From Joshua Abston: Thank you all for your time. This has been an incredibly helpful panel.

From Egbe: Thank you so much for the graduate school information. The advice on going full throttle was especially helpful! :)

From Isabel Fitzpatrick: Thank you so much panelists for sharing your time and knowledge with us!

From Lauren Borato: Yes, this is really invaluable, thank you!

From Victoria Gardner: Thank you for making this available! This panel was very helpful and valuable!

From Katie Twyman: Thank you so much, everyone!

From Jaya Mallela: Thank you for the incredible insights and tips! We really appreciate your time.

From Emma Kiely: A huge thank you to everyone on this panel! It has been incredibly helpful and answered so many questions I had.

From Alixandra Wilens: Thank you so much to everyone for this panel! It was such a great opportunity!
13:53:07  From Darlis Juvino: Thank you for all your time and attention to our questions! It has been extremely insightful and valuable. Hope you all stay safe! Enjoy your Memorial Day weekend and the summer!

13:53:50  From Frances Hampton: Thank you Dr. Mealanie Rodriguez! Very helpful closing statement about working in gap years or in between admission cycles.

13:53:59  From Emma Romaker: Thank you all for the help and resources!

13:54:04  From Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (she/her/ella): You’re welcome Frances :)

13:54:54  From Eric Landrum: Thank you to everyone for joining us today!

13:54:55  From Julia Cornish: Thank you “Three Heads” and the panelists for your time and knowledge. Be safe and stay healthy- From UWF

13:55:04  From Lucia Quezada: Thank you all for your time and for the invaluable information!

13:55:26  From Chloe: Thank you very much for all of the advice you've shared. Have a great afternoon.

13:56:24  From Julia Cornish: :::Standing Ovation::::

13:56:34  From Tom Harrison: Thank you all very much for your time and advice. You have eased lots of worry and concern and led us into this process of uncertainty with some confidence and strong understanding.

13:56:40  From Frances Hampton: How do we find panelist contacts to reach out at a later time?


13:57:01  From Regan A. R. Gurung: Regan.Gurung@oregonState.edu

13:57:22  From Egbe: Thank you @Dr. Gurung!

13:57:30  From Frances Hampton: Mahalo!!

13:58:30  From Frances Hampton: You have to give it time to convert and then you can save the file, edit the file and then share it!

14:00:16  From Frances Hampton: yay!!!!!

14:01:33  From Frances Hampton: Just end the meeting and leave your computer alone until conversion is complete.