Questions to Consider Asking About Graduate Programs

Admission Requirements

- 1. What are the admission requirements?
 - a. Is the GRE required for admission? If so, what range of scores are accepted? How much weight is placed on the GRE score in the admissions decision?
 - b. What are the admission deadlines?
 - c. When can I apply for admission?
 - d. What is the required GPA? How does this factor into the admissions decision?
 - e. How is the application reviewed?
 - f. How long does it take to get an admissions decision?
 - g. Upon admission, are you assigned a program advisor?

Cost and Finance Related

- 2. What type of scholarship opportunities exist?
- 3. What is the cost of the program? (ask about the number of courses and cost per course)
 - a. Ask about associated costs such as parking fees, insurance, conferences and program specific fees.
- 4. Are there graduate or teaching assistantships available? How do students find these opportunities?
- 5. How many courses do students need to take to be considered full-time?
- 6. What is the payment process? Is there a payment plan option, do you have to pay at the time of registration etc.

Programmatic and Career Questions

- 7. What can you tell me about the faculty who teach in the program?
- 8. What is the average class size?
- 9. How many students are currently enrolled in the program?
- 10. Can you tell me about the career opportunities available with this degree?
- 11. What resources are available to students such as writing assistance, career services, library services and housing options (if applicable)?
- 12. If I am unsure about which program can I take courses as a non-degree seeking student? If so, is there a limit on the number of courses I can take prior to admission?

Schedules, Time to Completion and Program Modality

- 13. How long does it take to complete the program?
- 14. Can you go part-time or full-time?
- 15. Depending on the program ask how many of the courses are offered online or in a hybrid format. Also, ask how the institutions defines hybrid to determine approximately how many of the course sessions have a face-to-face requirement each semester. Also, ask about the schedulding of face-to-face courses and requirements for hybrid...are they offered in the evenings or weekends or during the day?

Other

16. What do I need to know about this program that I have not already asked?