



THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Application for Graduate Admission Supplementary Application – Geology (GEOL)

For best consideration, please develop your statement of purpose to include responses to the following four program-specific questions below.

We seek passionate graduate students who wish to understand the fundamental properties and dynamics of the Earth and other planets. We encourage you to explore the research opportunities we offer and directly contact faculty with whom you share research interests before applying. We welcome applicants who have varied backgrounds and life experiences.

Please answer each of the following questions either individually or woven into a single narrative; the combined length must not exceed 2 pages.

1. Why are you seeking a graduate degree in Geology at the University of Maryland, College Park? What knowledge and skills do you hope to achieve from the graduate program that will be useful to your long-term career goals? In evaluating your application, we look for evidence that a research-based graduate degree is aligned with your goals and that you have a passion for studying one or more of the geological sciences.
2. Describe an example of how you have shown resilience and/or perseverance in the pursuit of your academic goals or in your personal life and how you have grown as a result. In evaluating your application, we look for evidence that your past experiences demonstrate an ability to successfully overcome academic or personal challenges that may come up during graduate study.
3. Describe a project you were, or would be, excited to tackle. In evaluating your application, we look for evidence of your curiosity and passion for learning, your approach to problem-solving, and your willingness to question your own work and that of others in the pursuit of knowledge.
4. [Optional] This is your opportunity to put your application in a broader context and tell us about specific qualities, experiences, or characteristics that you believe make you a stronger applicant, but that are not addressed by the questions 1-3.