

HISTORY

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-admissions/how-to-apply/>). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

Applicants to the doctoral program must hold or be near completion of the master's degree (or its equivalent); all others will be considered for admission to the master's program, even if it is their ultimate intention to pursue a doctoral degree at Penn State.

To be considered for admission, applicants must submit a completed online Graduate School application (<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/>) and payment of the nonrefundable application fee. In addition, applicants must submit official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission/>) that show:

1. substantial course work in history,
2. a minimum GPA of 3.50 (on a 4.0 scale),
3. at least three semesters of college-level work in a foreign language (additional language training appropriate to the fields in which the applicant proposes to work may also be required for admission) and
4. where applicable, a minimum GPA of 3.50 for all graduate work previously undertaken.

The Department of History requires a statement of intent outlining proposed fields of study and career goals, as well as a sample of written work (undergraduate history thesis, master's thesis, seminar paper or equivalent research paper) as evidence of historical research and writing skills. Three letters of recommendation are required; it is strongly preferred that at least two of them be from historians. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are not required.