INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTIC APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Degrees Offered: M.A. and Ph.D.
Major (Code): Geography (GEOG)
GRE Code: 4832
Phone Number: (520) 621-7486
FAX Number: (520) 621-2889

Program Description: Particular subareas of study emphasized by SGD include regional development, economic and population geography, climatology, biogeography and environmental geography, and cultural, social and critical human geography.

Note: MA degree is required for admission to PhD [applicants without an MA who are interested in the PhD, need to initially apply for the MA].

Deadlines: January 15 (for domestic and international applicants); Fall admission only; Incomplete files will not be reviewed. Note: SGD deadline supersedes Graduate College deadlines.

Send Directly to SGD These Materials:
Director of Graduate Studies
School of Geography and Development
The University of Arizona
P.O. Box 210076
Tucson, AZ 85721 USA

1. Complete official transcripts (in sealed envelopes from issuing institutions). List of all courses in which you are currently enrolled that do not appear on transcripts. Minimum GPA of 3.0 required.
2. Letters of recommendation (in sealed envelopes, signed across the seal or uploaded through Graduate College application process); minimum of two letters, three preferred. [Same letters will be used for both the admissions application and the application for Graduate Assistantship.]
3. Statement of intended research directions within SGD including names of faculty with whom you might work. [See more detailed description of statement below].
4. Application for Graduate Assistantship (if relevant). Currently an assistantship pays approximately $14,798 for 20 hours of work per week or $7400 for 10 hours, plus remission of out-of-state tuition (approximately $15,000 annually). Remission of in-state tuition and health insurance is also provided.

Send Directly to Graduate Admissions:
University of Arizona Graduate College
Administration 322, P.O. Box 210066
Tucson, AZ 85721-0066

5. GRE Scores (There is no required minimum but scores should be above average.). [Institution Code 4832]
6. International students need to submit either TOEFL score of 550 {PB], 79 [IBT], or IELTS [composite score of 7, no subject area below a 6].

To apply online: go to the Graduate College homepage at http://grad.arizona.edu/
Click the "Apply Now" button. In addition to completing the application, you will need to pay the application fee by credit card.

Description of Statement of Interest/Intent

The central goal of our admission process is to assure, to the greatest extent possible, an appropriate match between an applicant's aspirations and the capabilities of our school to help an applicant fulfill those aspirations successfully. While a variety of indicators aid us in these decisions (GPA and GRE scores, transcripts, students' prior experience, and letters of
(recommendation), the Letter of Interest/Intent provides the opportunity for each applicant to specify not only what his/her goals actually are, but also to articulate why the UA Geography program is the right vehicle for achieving them.

Accordingly, we urge applicants, when preparing a Letter of Interest/Intent, to be as clear and detailed as possible. Even if you are at the beginning of your graduate school career, and are still exploring possibilities, your letter should indicate how you have arrived at the decision to attend (or continue) graduate school (and here you might also include pertinent aspects of your own biography), what you eventually hope to attain, and why you think the UA and SGD are particularly apt for you. To the extent that you can already identify particular faculty members with whom you would like to work, or whose interests you share, you should indicate these potential relationships in your letter as well. (Clearly the SGD website can be helpful in this regard, but personal email and telephone conversations can be quite beneficial in elucidating cognate interests.) If your interests are inter- or multi-disciplinary, demonstrating a familiarity with other appropriate units and faculty on the UA campus can also be an important part of your rationale for studying here, and should be included in your letter.

Finally, because we also utilize the Letter of Interest/Intent as one indicator of your written communication skills and your preparation to undertake graduate study, take care in composing it. We are not looking for any particular style, but applicants should strive to make their letter distinctive and interesting (without being gimmicky), as well as informative.