



THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Application for Graduate Admission

Supplementary Application – Library and Information Science (LBSC/LBSO)

Please upload the response to the questions below on the Uploads Requirement page. Application essays should be uploaded under the Supplementary Application (option number 3) selection.

Your statement of purpose tells us about why you want to pursue graduate education at UMD, and what experiences have brought you to this point of wanting an education from the iSchool and the University of Maryland. This supplemental essay looks towards the future.

In approximately 500 words, please address:

- How does an MLIS degree from the University of Maryland fit into your future career plans? What kinds of jobs do you hope to get after graduate school?
- What interests you the most about your chosen specialization? A list of specializations can be found at <https://ischool.umd.edu/mlis-curriculum>. *Note: If you have selected the Individualized Program Plan, please go into some detail explaining what expertise you wish to gain through your coursework.*
- How do you see yourself contributing to the progress of the information field? What do you feel you can contribute to the community of information professionals?

Reviewers look for applicants who:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the information profession and his/her goals within it;
 - Are service-oriented and demonstrate the characteristics of adaptability, creativity, and collaboration;
 - Are comfortable with and eager to learn new technologies;
 - Have leadership potential; and
 - Have relatively clear career goals/interests
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School Library Specialization Candidates Only

School Library candidates must upload the materials listed below in addition to the admissions essay (supplementary application) listed above. Please upload this on the Upload Requirements page. All documents should be submitted as one file under the Supplementary Application Two (option number 4) selection.

The Master of Library and Information Science with a specialization in school libraries provides you with many opportunities to advance your career in library science. To ensure the program is a good fit for your background, interests, and abilities, it is important for us to have a good understanding of your goals and how you see those fitting with the activities you would be doing if accepted into the MLIS program. To help us access this aspect of your application, please provide short answers (125 words or less) to the following questions:

1. What will it mean to be an excellent school librarian in a school?
2. What skills do you need to learn to be an excellent school librarian?

We will be looking for the following points in your essay:

- Describe the roles and responsibilities that a school librarian may play in a school, and how do these roles and responsibilities contribute to the overall teaching and learning environment in the school?
- Demonstrate a thoughtful consideration of what skills are needed to be a good school librarian, and what you expect to learn in the UMD MLIS program.
- Address the need for a school librarian to reach diverse learners and maintain a positive and engaging learning environment for all students; and

Upload and complete:

- [Foundational Competences Self-Assessment Form](#)
 - [Criminal History Disclosure Form](#)
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