



GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATION (GRE)

INTRODUCTION:

If you're headed to grad school, you'll need to prepare for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Many schools consider GRE scores when determining merit-based grants, fellowships, and teaching or research assignments. The test will undergo major changes in 2007.

About the GRE Exam:

The GRE is a computer-adaptive test, which means your performance on previous questions determines which question you'll be asked next. This is changing in 2007.

What's on the GRE?

Analytical Writing

The Analytical Writing Section of the GRE has 2 essays. One asks students to "present their perspective on an issue," the other asks them to "analyze an argument."

At a Glance

- * 2 essays
- * 75 minutes: 30 minutes for the "issue" essay, and 45 minutes for the "argument" essay

Skills Tested

- * Ability to communicate complex ideas in a concise and effective way
- * Ability to evaluate claims and evidence
- * Ability to support ideas using logical reasoning and relevant examples
- * Ability to use standard written English to prove an argument

Quantitative Section

The Quantitative Section of the GRE tests high-school level math. You'll need to know arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and data analysis.

At a Glance

- * 28 questions
- * 45 minutes

Skills Tested

- * Ability to solve problems using math concepts
- * Ability to understand basic arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and data analysis
- * Ability to use quantitative reasoning

Verbal Section

The Verbal Section of the GRE has sentence completion questions, analogies, antonyms, and reading comprehension questions.

At a Glance

- * 30 questions
- * 30 minutes

Skills Tested

- * Ability to draw conclusions based on an analysis of written materials
- * Ability to recognize relationships between concepts and words
- * Ability to analyze relationships between different parts of sentences

Taking the GRE

How important are my GRE scores?

Schools vary tremendously in the weights they place on the different factors in the admissions process, so be sure to contact the specific schools to which you are applying in order to determine their unique requirements. Some programs weight GRE scores very heavily, and/or have a minimum score for applicants, while other programs consider GRE scores more of a formality. It is important to note that your GRE score is a major factor in determining your eligibility for financial aid.

Can I cancel my scores?

Yes. You can cancel your scores immediately after you take the GRE test. This is the only time you can cancel your scores. Unfortunately, you must make the decision to cancel at the testing center before you see your scores. In addition, the fact that you cancelled your scores will be noted on your official GRE score report.

How do I know if I am ready for the GRE Test?

Try our free online GRE course demo, which includes a full-length practice test. When you finish the practice test you'll get a complete report detailing your strengths and weaknesses. If you are satisfied with your results, then you may be ready. If you feel that you still need help, check out The Princeton Review's many GRE course options or call us at 800-2Review.

When Should I Take the GRE?

First find out the application deadlines for the graduate schools to which you are applying. Then work backwards from your earliest deadline. Build some extra time into your planning process for unexpected delays because you can only take the GRE test once per calendar month. Keep in mind that it can take as long as four weeks for your official scores to arrive at your designated schools. The GRE is offered at testing centers almost every day. Call your local center for details and to book your test. While in theory you could sign up for the GRE with only two days' notice, don't depend upon this luxury. Call at least one month prior to your desired test date.

What fees are associated with the GRE Test?

The fee to take the GRE test is \$130 within the United States, some U.S. Territories, and Puerto Rico. The fee is \$160 in all other locations (except China, including Hong Kong, Korea, and Taiwan, where it is \$175).

What are the GRE Subject Tests?

The GRE Subject Tests are intended to measure your knowledge of specific subject matter. Subject Tests are available in eight disciplines: biochemistry, cell and molecular biology; biology; chemistry; computer science; literature in English; mathematics; physics; and psychology. These

tests are given in paper-and-pencil format three times per year, in November, December, and April.

These tests are given separately from the GRE General Test and require additional fees. Check with the graduate schools to which you are applying to determine whether any of these extra tests are required.

Where can I get more information about the GRE?

You can contact us by calling 800-2Review. Or you can contact the Educational Testing Service (ETS) at: 800-GRE-CALL, 609-771-7670, or www.gre.org.

GRE Changes Info Center

Higher GRE Score Guaranteed

NEXT STEPS

Enroll Now

Request GRE Course Info

NEED HELP?

Call us at 800-2Review

Read GRE Articles

GRE Courses and Tutors

GRE Test Prep Choosing the best GRE preparation will depend on your individual learning style. We give you three options: GRE classroom and online courses, and private tutoring.

GRE Classroom Courses

Online GRE Courses

GRE Tutoring

No more than 8 students in a class

Engaging GRE instructors

LiveGraderSM essay scoring

Full-length GRE practice tests

Free extra help

Self-directed lessons and drills

Full-length GRE practice tests

LiveGraderSM essay scoring

Extensive print materials

Free extra help via 24/7 text chat

Expert, one-on-one GRE tutoring

Prepare around your schedule

LiveGraderSM essay scoring

Full-length GRE pr