

Admission to UNLV M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Geoscience

The Geoscience Department admits MS and PhD students during both Fall and Spring semesters. For full consideration, please submit application materials (as follow) for Fall admission by February 1st and for Spring admission by October 1st. Please send materials early as admission decisions are made shortly after the indicated dates, and an application that is missing a component risks being rejected. Exceptional students are encouraged to submit application materials early as you may qualify for specific assistantships that are determined before the application deadline.

Admission Requirements Include the Following:

1. A Bachelor's or Master's degree in Geoscience, or an appropriate related field.
2. A minimum overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.0. In rare cases, a student with a GPA lower than 3.0 may be admitted.
3. For international applicants whose native language is not English, a proof of English proficiency is required. Please check the requirements here: <https://www.unlv.edu/graduatecollege/english-proficiency>
4. In order to be admitted without contingencies the applicant must have completed an introductory geology class and six of the following eight classes (or their equivalents): mineralogy, geochemistry, geomorphology, structural geology, igneous and metamorphic petrology, paleontology, field geology, and sedimentology/stratigraphy.
5. It is not required, but strongly encouraged, that you complete a FAFSA application and indicate that you want the results sent to UNLV as the university has scholarship money that is awarded to incoming students that is based on your GPA and your financial need. Because financial need is determined by your FAFSA scores, you can only receive these funds if you have a FAFSA report on file at UNLV. This opportunity is only available for U.S. citizens.

To apply, please follow the instructions regarding admission provided on the Graduate College website: <https://www.unlv.edu/graduatecollege>

Please arrange three (3) letters of recommendation from individuals competent to comment on your promise as a graduate student. You can input their names and email addresses in the on-line *Graduate Rebel Gateway* system and the system will automatically trigger an email to ask them to complete the reference letter. However, because your professor/supervisor may be busy or forget about it, please do check with them to make sure they have sent out the reference letter.

Please load the following items directly to the Rebel Gateway system when you are completing the online application:

1. A Statement of Purpose: An essay (1–2 pages) describing your reasons for considering graduate study, your goals after completion of the graduate degree, and your specific area(s)/potential advisor(s) of interest.
2. A brief, one-page (maximum two-page) CV containing your address and contact information.
3. The official transcripts from all college and universities you have attended.

All application materials are available on-line. Once you have completed each of the above steps, your application is complete! You do not need to send a separate application to the Geoscience Department or College of Sciences. Assistantships, Fellowships and Scholarships are automatically considered; you do not need to send a separate application. If you have questions, please send an email to our graduate Coordinator, Dr. Ganqing Jiang (Ganqing.Jiang@unlv.edu).