Questioning Graduate School?

**Things to consider when thinking about graduate school:**

*Is graduate school a good fit?*

- Why do you want to go to graduate school?
  - Really think about this because this will help when creating a personal statement
- Why do you want to attend graduate school now?
- Are you willing to make the time commitment?
- Is a Master’s degree required for your job/industry of choice?
  - Research occupations, degree levels, and salary ranges
- Do you want to attend class online or in-person?
- What geographic area are you considering?
- Where would you live?
- Are you looking to be a full-time or part-time student?
- What type of experience are you looking for?
- Have you researched your options?
  - [http://www.gradschools.com/institutions](http://www.gradschools.com/institutions)
  - [http://www.usnews.com/education](http://www.usnews.com/education)

**Specific questions about graduate programs:**

- What schools/cities are you considering?
- What type of program are you looking for?
- What is the duration of the program?
- How many hours are required?
- What are the classes and when are they scheduled?
- How much does the program cost?
- How the department setup and how is the faculty?
- What is unique or what do you like about the program?
- What are some concerns regarding the program?
- What entrance exam is required?
- What are the average GPA and exam scores?
- What is needed for the application process?
- What is the timeline for applying? Is it rolling admissions?
- What are the profiles of previous classes?
- Have you researched scholarship or assistantship opportunities?
- What is the employment rate after completing the program?
- What types of jobs are available post-graduation?
- What companies recruit from this program?

**Suggestions:**

- Create a comparison chart between schools/programs you are considering
- Consider your goals and if graduate school will help you achieve these goals
- Research the school’s website first because most information can be found here
- If you have additional questions, reach out to the recruiter or program director to learn more
- Be realistic and ready to work hard!