

The University of Texas at Austin

### Admission Checklist for the Master of Science in Data Science

Priority deadline: a complete application is due August 15, 2021 (23:59 CST)

Final deadline: a complete application is due September 15, 2021 (23:59 CST)

*Submission of the ApplyTexas portion of the application is due 1 week before the deadlines above.*

Please use this admissions checklist and click on the embedded links to ensure your application and materials meet the Graduate School and program guidelines. Applying is a twofold process involving both Graduate School and [program](#) materials. Applicants are recommended to start the application process early in order to have all required materials received by the final deadline.

## DEPARTMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1) **Submit the online ApplyTexas application:**
  - a) Refer to Application Process section [here](#) for step-by-step instructions.
  - b) Make sure to download the Mathematics and Programming Preparedness Form on ApplyTexas.
  - c) At the end you will need to pay your application fee. **The fee must be paid to upload application items in step d.** If you are applying to both MSDS and MCSO, please see our [FAQ](#) section.
  - d) Within 2-3 days after submitting your ApplyTexas application, you will receive an email from the Graduate and International Admissions Center (GIAC) directing you to your [MyStatus](#) portal along with your student ID (UT EID). Use the portal to upload applicable required items. For this reason, we recommend **starting your application at least a week before** the application deadline.
  - e) Do not email or mail application items. Sending paper copies of documents will **significantly delay** the processing of your application.
- 2) **Statement of Purpose:** In no more than two double-spaced pages, describe the events/experiences that have prepared you for this program, your academic and professional interests, your reasons for pursuing graduate study, and your goals related to this program. Use normal margins and 12 pt font. Upload this item through your MyStatus.
- 3) **Mathematics and Programming Preparedness Form:** Download the form from ApplyTexas or our [website](#). Instructions are on the form. Complete and upload as “Math Prep Form” through your MyStatus.
- 4) **CV/Resume:** Outline your educational background, work history, relevant publications, research, and patents. At the end of this document, include a brief description of how you meet the [pre-requisite courses](#). If applicable, list **specific courses with grades** achieved. Otherwise, briefly indicate how you fulfill the required background (e.g., by on-line courses, etc). Upload the item through your MyStatus.
- 5) **Optional Departmental Requirements:** Opting out of submitting optional materials does not reflect adversely on your application.
  - a) **GRE General Score:** If you feel an area of your application is weak, you may take the GRE and send official scores through ETS using UT Austin’s code 6882. There is no departmental code and we can only accept ETS scores. See [here](#) for further details on sending scores and [here](#) for further program details.
  - b) **Letters of Recommendation:** Applicants have the [option](#) of supplying recommenders’ names and email addresses as part of the ApplyTexas application. Recommenders will be contacted electronically after the application has been submitted and the application fee has been paid. Or, you can request and manage your recommendation letters through your MyStatus. Recommenders can be supervisors or academic references. **Do not exceed three** recommendations. **Due to system constraints, letters of recommendation are listed as required on MyStatus, but they are optional.** If you opt out, there will be no issues processing your application if letters are the only item left in your “Required (to do)” section of MyStatus.

## GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

All other items not listed under the Departmental Requirements section above are required items set by the Graduate and International Admissions Center (GIAC). These may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- 6) **An official TOEFL/IELTS score (International Applicants only):** This [link](#) outlines who is considered an international applicant and must provide a score. This [requirement](#) is set by the Graduate and International Admissions Center (GIAC). Scores must be sent to UT Austin electronically (you do not need a departmental code and we cannot accept emailed or MyStatus uploaded scans of results). Please note: **It may take up to 4-6 weeks for your scores to be received.** Please plan accordingly so that your results are in our university system no later than the deadlines above. Visit [How to Apply: International Students](#) for more information on exemptions and minimum scores. If you have questions on this item, please reach out to the Graduate School [here](#).
- 7) **Transcript(s):** Provide an official transcript **from every senior college you have attended**. Please see the ‘Submit Transcripts’ section of the Graduate Admission page for [instructions](#) and additional details. **Sending paper copies of documents will significantly delay the processing of your application.** If you have further questions on this requirement, be sure to contact [GIAC](#) with your UT EID as soon as possible.

## AFTER YOU SUBMIT:

**Check that your application is complete.** Go to your MyStatus portal to confirm that you do not have any items (except for letters of recommendation) on the “To Do (required)” section of your MyStatus portal. If letters of recommendation are the only item in the “To Do (required)” section your application is complete. Otherwise, it is incomplete. While items may be processed by the Graduate and International Admissions Center after the deadline, if your application status shows incomplete at the time of the deadline, your application will not be considered for review. **It is solely the responsibility of the applicant** to ensure that there are **no pending items** on their MyStatus portal (except for letters of recommendation—see above).

If you see an item listed as required that it is not on the Departmental Requirements list, please refer to this [site](#) and then [contact](#) GIAC with your UT EID immediately.

For more information, please visit us at <https://ms-datascience.utexas.edu/>