**MS/PhD Application Timeline & Information Sheet for Georgakakos Lab**

In an attempt to make sure I’m a good fit for you as a mentor and you are good fit for me and my group, I ask all prospective students to think through some questions related to research and career goals below. My hope is that by working through this list you can begin to generate longer- and shorter-term goals that my group and I may be equipped to assist you with. The recommended application procedure and timeline that I try to follow is outlined below:

1. Please fill out this form (you may change the format, remove instructional text if you would like, though this is not necessary, content is the important part!).
2. Please return this form with your CV/resume to me via email (cbgeorga@esf.edu) ***before*** you submit an application through ESF’s online application system. This gives you a chance to think through your goals before directly applying to a program, and it gives me a chance to learn a bit more about you before your application shows up in the ESF system. Please include this form and your CV/resume in the same PDF if possible. I expect this form to be no longer than 2-3 pages. There is no problem with a shorter form submission, but please keep it concise by sticking below the maximum word limits included below. There is no page limit on your CV/resume.
3. After reviewing your form, I will contact you for an informal virtual interview/conversation. During this meeting I’m hoping to hear a bit more about you and your interests and let you ask me any questions you may have about me, my group, ESF, or upstate New York in general. The intention here is to see if we are a good fit for each other before you put time and energy into your application.
4. If you decide you would like to join my group, please submit an application through [ESF’s online application portal](https://www.esf.edu/graduate/prospective/admission.php) by January 15, 2024 for a fall start timeline. If you are interested in beginning graduate studies at a different time, please feel free to include this below. You may apply either through the [Graduate Program in Environmental Science o](https://www.esf.edu/envscience/gpes/index.php)r through the [Department of Environmental Resources Engineering](https://www.esf.edu/ere/graduate/index.php). The ESF application will require you to mark a primary advisor (Major Professor). If you would like to work with me, make sure I am listed as an advisor, but you may also list other faculty who you are interested in working with.
5. Our department reviews all submitted applications and returns decisions early in the new year (generally in February) for fall semester starts. The decision will be one of the following: Accept with funding (funding is guaranteed), accept with possible funding (funding is uncertain at time of acceptance), accept (student is expected to fund own degree and stipend), reject (student is not accepted), or waitlisted (acceptance is delayed due to a variety of factors which may include funding uncertainty).

If you have any questions about this process, please let me know via email ([cbgeorga@esf.edu](mailto:cbgeorga@esf.edu)).

**Please fill out and return the following questions:**

1. Name, email, time zone
2. If you require a visa to study at ESF, are you familiar with the requirements for this process? Many visa applications require specific documents and language that I may be unfamiliar with and will rely heavily on you to lead this process.
3. Are you interested in a Master’s of Science or a PhD at this point?
4. Are you able to begin your studies at ESF in Fall 2024? Our fall semester begins at the end of August, our spring semester begins in the middle of January.
5. Do you have your own source of funding? This could be fellowships, scholarships, support from private industry, etc. Coming with your own funding gives you more flexibility in choosing projects you are specifically interested in, but is not required for acceptance.
6. Have you completed a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree? Please include here major/department/institution, thesis topic, any other important information that would not be evident on your CV/resume that you would like to share.
7. Have you published any articles in a peer-reviewed journal in English? Have you published non-peer reviewed articles in English or in any other language? Please list here the references/links if so.
8. Do you have experience using any programing languages? If so, which ones and how did you use them?
9. Please discuss any courses, research experiences, internships, jobs or other extra curriculars that you have been a part of that incorporated chemistry, ecology, or water resources (maximum 2 paragraphs, 300 words). Are there skills from those experiences that you think will benefit you in graduate school?
10. Please discuss your career plans (maximum 2 paragraphs, 300 words). Why do you want to pursue a graduate degree? What are your long-term career goals? What are your short-term career goals? What are your graduate school-specific goals? What knowledge areas and skills do you think you should develop to help you reach your goals?
11. Please describe a moment/accomplishment you are proud of in your professional/academic career. This does not have to be a moment that other people recognized you for, but that you see as an important or influential moment (100 words maximum)
12. Please include a figure/plot/graphic you have generated that you are proud of and explain why you are proud of it. (100 words maximum)
13. Please describe a potential research topic you would be interested in pursuing. (200 words maximum)
14. Do you know how you prefer to be mentored? Do you prefer a more hands-on mentor? Do you prefer a more independent style of work? Do you have any experience mentoring others? In that case, what type of mentor were you?
15. Please share a few of your hobbies you enjoy doing!
16. Don’t forget to attach your CV/resume!