MSFS-FI Admission Criteria

To be considered for admission to the Forensic Investigations (FI) specialization, an applicant must:

1) Hold a baccalaureate degree in criminal justice or a closely related field, although exceptions to this requirement will be considered to accommodate individuals with practical experience as employees in the criminal justice or forensic field.

2) Have a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better (on a 4.0 scale).

3) Submit two letters of recommendation. These letters should come from individuals with knowledge of the applicant's qualifications and ability to successfully complete graduate study such as past professors or supervisors.

4) Submit a written statement (250 to 750 words) that addresses the applicant's interest in the program, future goals, and, where appropriate, provide information on educational or professional experiences that make the candidate suitable for admission.

FI applicants are not required to take the GRE. Past academic performance, the two letters of recommendation, and the personal statement are used as indicators of potential success in lieu of the GRE.

Students whose native language is not English are required to meet the Graduate College's English language acquisition policies. Please see: https://www.bgsu.edu/international-programs-and-partnerships/international-student-services/future-students/admissions/graduate.html

Application Deadline

Students may start the FI specialization in the fall (August), spring (January), or summer (May) semester. For this reason, applications to the FI specialization are considered on a "rolling" or an ongoing basis.

However, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit all necessary materials (numerated above) at least 30 days prior to their preferred start term (i.e., fall, spring, or summer semester).

Applicants who wish to be considered for an assistantship (i.e., tuition scholarship and/or stipend) must submit a completed application by April 1 regardless of whether they intend to start the following summer (May), fall (August), or spring (January).

How to Apply?

The application can be initiated here: https://www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions.html