How to apply for the Graduate Program in Chemistry at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and more

Please apply on-line to UTEP’s Graduate School using the following link: https://apply.embark.com/grad/UTEP/22/
You will need the following code information: Institution Code 6829; Department code 0301. The review of your application is two-tiered. Your application documents will be first reviewed by Graduate School staff and then by the Chemistry Graduate Committee. The latter committee will make admission or non-admission recommendations based on your entire application as a whole, not based on a single item or score.

Application Documents needed

a) Your Curriculum Vitae
b) Your personal statement, approximately one page long, that should address the following questions:
   • What is your interest in chemistry or in a particular area of chemistry?
   • Whose research are you particularly interested in and why? Please identify two or three professors as potential research advisors. This is not binding, but it helps us better understand your interests. Contacting your potential research advisor in advance is highly encouraged.
   • Why did you choose UTEP for your graduate studies?
   • Are you applying to the M.S. or Ph.D. program in chemistry, and what are your future career goals?
d) Your General GRE scores (The chemistry subject GRE is not required.) The successful applicant typically has the following scores: Verbal: 30th percentile; Quantitative: 60th percentile; Analytical Writing: 25th percentile.
e) Your TOEFL score if you are an International student from a non-English speaking country who completed his/her undergraduate or M.S. degree in a non-English speaking country. A minimum score of 550 (paper-based TOEFL), 79 (internet-based TOEFL), or 213 (computer-based TOEFL) is required. Alternatively, a minimum IELTS test score of 6.5 will also be accepted instead of the TOEFL.
f) Please provide the email addresses of three letter writers (e.g. professors, research advisors, supervisors) who know you well and who have agreed to write letters of recommendation on your behalf. Your letter writers will be contacted by EMBARK and will be asked to upload their confidential letters electronically.

Application Deadlines
The Department of Chemistry admits graduate students twice per year. For admission for the Fall semester (August) the application deadline is February 1st. Applicants who apply by this early deadline will get first priority. The hard deadline is March 1st, by which all application documents must be received including three letters of recommendation. Applications may still be considered up to this date depending on the availability of positions. For admission for the Spring semester the application deadline is July 1st, with the hard application deadline of August 1st. The same policies as described for the Fall semester deadlines apply.

Placement Exams
All new graduate students take five placement exams one week before the semester starts in analytical chemistry, biochemistry, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, and physical chemistry. The placement exams begin on Monday in the week before the semester starts at 9:00 am.

After You Arrive
Please make sure to arrive in El Paso at least two weeks before the semester begins. During this time you should move into your new place, report to UTEP’s Office of International Programs (International students only), apply for a social security number, complete paperwork in UTEP’s Human Resources office, obtain your UTEP email address, open a bank account, apply for your student ID card, apply for laboratory/office keys, attend a 1 hour laboratory safety training course, initially register for a minimum of six credits of research to meet the registration deadline. After the placement exams are completed some or all of the research credits will be replaced with lecture and seminar credits.

Contact Information for the Graduate Advisor in the Department of Chemistry
Please direct inquiries and questions to Dr. Mahesh Narayan, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Texas at El Paso, 500 West University Avenue, El Paso, TX 79968, Email: mnarayan@utep.edu