MCRP FAQs

1. Q: Where can I find the instructions and details for Cal State Apply?
   A: You should find everything you need at the graduate education website
   (https://admissions.calpoly.edu/applicants/graduate/process.html)

2. Q: Where do I email my letters of recommendation?
   A: Submit your recommendations to Cal State Apply.

3. Q: How long should the writing sample be?
   A: 5-10 pages. You must be the sole author.

4. Q: I graduated from Cal Poly SLO. Will I still need to send my transcripts to
   the registrar, as I am assuming they already have this info internally?
   A: You do not need to submit your transcripts to the registrar if you have
   graduated from Cal Poly. However, you will need to upload a copy of your
   unofficial transcripts to Cal State Apply along with all of the other supplemental materials.

5. Q: Can applicants add additional contacts for letters of recommendations? I would
   like to submit two academic and two professional references if possible.
   A: Yes

6. Q: Would a professional document (such as a report or grant application be an
   appropriate writing sample or is an academic paper preferred?
   A: Yes, as long as you are the sole author and they demonstrate your writing abilities.

7. Q: Regarding the Letter of Recommendations, should I have each of my
   recommenders send their letters directly to the CRP department or should I ask them
   to give me the letter so I can compile a package containing all the supplemental
   materials and send it to the department all at once?
   A: All letters of recommendation must be uploaded to Cal State Apply directly by the
   person writing the recommendation. Letters of recommendation should not be sent by
   you on behalf of your recommenders.
8. Q: I am looking for the deadline for the Master of CRP applications.
   A: Deadlines for Fall are April 1st for applications and May 1st for supplemental materials submission. Winter deadlines are November 1st and December 1st for applications and file submissions, respectively.

9. Q: Do you accept winter applications?
   A: No, we do not accept winter quarter applications.

10. Q: Do I need to have all the prerequisite classes before I apply for the dual degree MCRP/MS program?
    A: You do not need to have the prerequisites BEFORE applying. You only need to satisfy them during the course of your studies. You can choose to take those courses in a Community College or at Cal Poly, whichever is most convenient for you.

11. Q: Can I change to the dual degree program (MCRP and MS Transportation Planning) after I’m accepted in to the MCRP Program?
    A: Yes. You can change your degree objective to the dual degree program after you are enrolled. This is actually the recommended path most participants take to the joint degree.

12. Q: Are GRE scores required when applying for the MCRP program?
    A: All applicants to master’s degree programs will be required to complete the general GRE exam. Applicants who earned a Cal Poly bachelor’s degree within the last seven years will be granted an exemption from this requirement; however, specific programs may waive this exemption and require the GRE for all applicants. Please keep in mind that any applicant (external or Cal Poly undergraduate) with an undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or lower will be required to take the GRE and demonstrate results that are at the 50-percentile or higher (Quant, Verbal & Writing) to be considered for admission.

13. Q: When does the application review process start?
    A: CRP starts reviewing MCRP applications around the second week in January.

14. Q: Do applicants who have a previous master’s degree need to take the GRE?
    A: Yes, unless the master’s degree is from Cal Poly.

15. Q: If I have a bachelors from Cal Poly but it is from a program that is different from my master’s degree objective (e.g. BS materials engineering & MS biomedical engineering), do I need to take the GRE?
    A: No
16. Q: If I have a bachelor’s degree from another university but am enrolled in a credential program at Cal Poly, do I need to take the GRE?

A: Yes