admissions_chelsiah (P): Welcome to the Evening & Weekend Berkeley MBA Reapplicant Chat.

admissions_chelsiah (P): Answering your questions today will be Rahul Sampat – Senior Associate Director; Julia Sprague – Assistant Director, Cecile Matthews – Assistant Director; Jen Arvai – Admissions Manager --and myself, Chelsiah Scouras –Admissions Coordinator. This chat is moderated. Your questions are put into a queue to be answered, so do not be alarmed if we do not respond to you immediately. It is best if you send one question at a time and please do not resend your questions multiple times. They will not be answered more quickly and it may slow us down. Please send us your questions!

admissions_julia (P): Thanks for your continued interest in the EWMBA Program and for joining us today!

Herin_Ruhela (Q): I have a re-applicant feedback session in August end. I have a couple of question related to that:

admissions_jen (A): Great- feel free to ask us your questions here or via email if they are more personal.

innov8or (Q): Would I need to get new recommendation letters or existing ones from F14 application would do?

admissions_jen (A): Great question! We require only one new letter, preferably from your current supervisor.

admissions_julia (P): If you haven't already done so, I would encourage you to request a feedback session with a member of the admissions committee. To do so, please email us at ewmbaadm@haas.berkeley.edu.

Kevin (Q): Are reapplicants expected to apply by Round 1 this year? Will it be looked upon negatively if we submit in Round 2 or 3?

admissions_cecile (A): Hi Kevin, good question. No, it doesn't matter which round you apply in terms of your chance of being admitted. We would advise that you submit your application when you feel it is strongest. Also, if you received feedback that mentioned getting more work experience, for example, then it may be to your benefit to wait to apply in a later round - so you have that chance to gain more
work experience. However, if you are planning on applying for one of our EW MBA scholarships and/or need a particular cohort, then I would recommend applying by Round 2.

**Harsha (Q):** Can you please clarify when is the latest that we can submit GMAT scores for round 1?

**admissions_jen (A):** Hello Harsha. If you are planning to retake the test during the application round, we will evaluate your new scores. Please make sure you enter your future test date in your application and email our office your unofficial score report as soon as possible after the exam. In order to ensure consideration, new scores must be received no later than two weeks prior to the decision date of the round you applied in.

**Herin_Ruhela (Q):** 1) Will the feedback session be interactive? Will I get an opportunity to ask specific question on my performances on sections such as Essays, Interview Performance, and Test scores etc.?

**admissions_julia (A):** Hi Herin. Hope you’re doing well! The admissions officer will be prepared to cover everything we feel will help you put your best foot forward next year. If you have follow-up questions or something is not clear, please feel free to ask. However, note that we only have 15 min with each candidate, so use that time wisely.

**Lando (Q):** Does the new letter need to be a new individual, different from the previous recommenders?

**admissions_jen (A):** Hello Lando. We prefer the letter come from your current supervisor. If it is the same person as last year, that is just fine. It can be a great opportunity for them to highlight any new achievements since your last submission.

**San (Q):** Hello every one. What is the impact of test scores on rejection of my application compared to my other profile info?

**admissions_cecile (A):** We review applications holistically rather than focusing just on your test scores. You can be a stand-out candidate in other areas of your application.

**Reapplicant (Q):** I have a question on the reapplication process. Would the application requirement be the same for reapplicants compared to those applying the first time? What would be different for re-applicants?

**admissions_cecile (A):** Please refer to [http://ewmba.haas.berkeley.edu/admissions/reapplication.html](http://ewmba.haas.berkeley.edu/admissions/reapplication.html) for detailed instructions for reapplicants.

**jeff (Q):** Are the application essays the same as last year, and if so, do you expect different responses? I’m mainly talking about the “tell me about yourself” question that is unlikely to change much over one year

**admissions_julia (A):** Thanks for your question, Jeff. Our fall 2015 essay questions are the same as fall 2014, but we’ve shortened the length requirement to 250 words max for the 2 short answer questions.
The long essay you reference is exactly the same. Please make sure this essay is personal and gives us a sense of who you are as a person.

**MBA_applicant (Q):** Will taking the Math Waiver exam or performing well on outside accepted math courses sub for a poor GMAT quant score?

**admissions_jen (A):** In regards to satisfying requirement, you may fulfill it with any one of the three options: passing the waiver exam, passing an approved course with a grade of B or higher, or scoring 75% or higher on the quant portion of your GMAT.

**SutanV12014 (Q):** Would the re-applicant be considered only when he/she applies for 2015 class? What if there is a personal reason that needs to delay the application for another year?

**admissions_julia (A):** Hi Sutan. Our definition of a reapplicant is anyone who's applied to any Berkeley MBA Program in the last 2 years. So, if you applied in 2014 and you end up reapplying in 2016, you would still be considered a reapplicant. However, the application requirements would be different than if you were to reapply in 2015. See here for detailed requirements: http://ewmba.haas.berkeley.edu/admissions/reapplication.html. Hope that makes sense!

**dcollins14 (Q):** I plan on taking a class this fall. Would a stat class or calculus class be more valuable?

**admissions_cecile (A):** Hi dcollins14. Students are no longer required to complete the statistics prerequisite for enrollment, as the statistics coursework has been incorporated into the core curriculum. Other than the math requirement, it is a personal choice if you feel you would like to take a course to help prepare for the program. It may also depend on the feedback you receive.

**bit (Q):** Can we reuse the same email id for new admissions account. Will this result in clearing out our old application account?

**admissions_jen (A):** You should be able to create a new account for 2015 with your preferred email. If you run into any issues though, please let us know and we are happy to help. It’s also a great idea to print your 2014 application to keep as reference- and to be sure to sign up for feedback ASAP and reserve your time before creating your new 2015 account.

**Lando(Q):** Thank you, Jen.

**admissions_jen (A):** My pleasure! Thanks for attending this chat!

**Herin_Ruhela (Q):** As per the admission requirements, I am required to take a TOEFL exam to be eligible to be considered to admission. I took my last TOEFL on January 17, 2014. What is the cut-off date to take TOEFL for F15? Will I be required to re-take TOEFL?

**admissions_jen (A):** Good news Herin_Ruhela, the deadline for the TOEFL for 2015 is on or after June 1, 2013 so it sounds like you are all set!
jeff (Q): If I submitted a third rec letter (after being placed on the waitlist last year), will that still be on file and considered for this year?

admissions_jen (A): Hi Jeff- Yes, your application from last year will still be on file and reviewed along with this year's application.

Harsha (Q): Are there any major changes to the EWMBA program compared to the last term that we should be aware of?

admissions_cecile (A): Hi Harsha! No. Last year Data and Decisions was added to the core and the core was extended to 3 semesters, but no major changes to the program this year.

Harsha (Q): Will all the first set of LORs and Support Letters also be used when evaluating our applications the second time?

admissions_cecile (A): Yes, we will review your previous application, including LORs and Support Letters.

MBA_applicant (Q): If I have a long work history under a previous manager (maybe 1 year ago) would it be best to ask this manager for a letter or recommendation instead?

admissions_julia (A): Hi MBA_applicant. A supervisor (either current or former) is generally able to give us great insight into your work performance. So, yes, a recent previous supervisor with whom you worked for a while could be a good choice. But, of upmost importance is how closely you worked with them and whether they can attest to your value as an employee, your professional accomplishments, and your personal qualities. So, please make sure to use your best judgment!

TBaggett (Q): Once we have scheduled a feedback session, how should we prepare for the session?

admissions_jen (A): Hi TBaggett- thanks for asking! It’s a great idea to print out a copy of your 2014 application and have that available with a notebook to jot down the advice for your application. The committee will be looking to see if you were able to address any weaknesses noted during your feedback session in your new application. Make sure you keep your feedback notes someplace safe so you can reference them when completing your application.

innov8or (Q): Will there be another interview round this year for reapplicants?

admissions_jen (A): Hello innov8or. Depending on whether the admissions committee has questions from your previous application, we may or may not invite you to interview again this year. If you are not invited to interview again this year, it should not be viewed as negative-depending on the strength of your previous interview; we may feel that your previous interview is sufficient for our evaluation process.

Kevin (Q): I just transitioned out of my job and am pursuing a one year master's degree (non-business) to facilitate a career change. Though I can logically explain my goal progression and why EWMBA would benefit next year following my current master's, does it negatively affect me because I don't have a current full-time job?
admissions_julia (A): Hi Kevin. Good luck with your current master’s program! The EW MBA Program is designed for working professionals, so, as with any applicant, the expectation is that you would be employed during the program. So, as long as you have concrete plans to be employed, this alone shouldn’t negatively impact your candidacy.

Harsha (Q): Will it be OK if I submitted my GRE score last time and GMAT score this time?

admissions_julia (A): Great question, Harsha. Definitely! We find that some candidates perform better on one test than the other, so it may be worth giving the other a try.

innov8or (Q): How many reapplicants applied in F14 and out of those how many of them got accepted this year?

admissions_cecile (A): Hi innov8or, we don’t publicize that information, but I can tell you a higher percentage of reapplicants get admitted compared to the general pool of applicants because they are able to address areas discussed in a feedback session with a member of the admissions team.

Harsha (Q): Is the waitlist pool shared between EW MBA and Exec MBA?

admissions_jen (A): Hi Harsha. No, the waitlist pool is not shared between the two part-time programs.

SutanV12014 (Q): I have to get back to work. Thanks for the chat. This has been helpful. You guys have a good the rest of the day.

admissions_cecile (A): Thank you for participating. Good day to you, too!

Harsha (Q): Thanks Julia.

admissions_julia (A): My pleasure!

admissions_jen (A): Thank you so much for taking the time to attend! As always, you are more than welcome to call or email our office with any further questions. Our email address is: ewmbaadm@haas.berkeley.edu and our main line is: (510)642-0292.

Harsha (Q): Thanks for the clarification Jen.

admissions_jen (A): Happy to help!

admissions_chelsiah (P): Hello everyone! Thank you for joining us. The chat will be wrapping up in a few minutes. We greatly appreciate your questions. We apologize for not getting to everyone. We will be emailing everyone a transcript of today’s chat within the next week. We will continue to address some questions already in the queue, but we will not be forwarding additional questions. If you did not get all your questions answered today, or if you have any additional questions, please contact us at ewmbaadm@haas.berkeley.edu or 510-642-0292.

SutanV12014 (Q): Other than a recommendation letter, and I assume, one essay, Is there anything else we need to work on?
admissions_julia (A): The basic requirements include one new recommendation and one new reapplication essay about what’s changed since you last applied (including feedback addressed). Aside from this, please make sure to update anything noted during your feedback session. We will give you very specific advice, and we will expect you to put effort towards this advice. If we recommend, for example, that you clarify your goals and rewrite your goals essay, please do so! Thanks.

admissions_julia (P): We hope to see an application from you all next year! If you have any other questions that come up, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kevin (Q): Thanks everyone for the Q&A. It was very helpful. Hope you all have a good rest of the week.

Admissions_Rahul (A): Thanks everyone for joining us and we hope you found the chat today helpful! We will be doing more chats and events in the future, but in the meantime, please feel free to contact us via email or phone if needed!

calalum07 (Q): Will the target class size by the same as last year’s?

admissions_julia (A): Yes, the target class size will remain at 250.

admissions_julia (P): Thanks, everyone! Enjoy the rest of your day.

admissions_chelsiah (P): Thank you for joining us--this room is now closed.