Welcome to the Berkeley-Haas Evening & Weekend MBA Admissions Chat! We will be starting shortly.

Welcome to the Berkeley-Haas Evening & Weekend MBA chat. Answering your questions today will be Molly Kihanya - Senior Associate Director, Tammy Soulsby - Assistant Director, Courtney Chandler, Julia Sprague – Admissions Manager, Lindsey Hiltabrand – Admissions Assistant, and myself, Sarah Thompson - Admissions Assistant. This chat is moderated. Your questions are put into a cue 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!

Can you please confirm that as a US college graduate, the only documentation you need are transcripts, and not a copy of the actual degree?

Correct, as a graduate of U.S. institution, you only need to submit your transcript.

I requested my grad school to send a transcript to your address. How do I verify that you have my transcripts?

You will get an email when we process your application (within 6 weeks after the submission deadline) that either confirms receipt of your complete application, or lets you know what is missing so that you can resend it.

We have to submit the application by Jan 10 midnight for round 2. When should supplemental materials reach your office when sent through mail?

We prefer to have all materials by the January 10th deadline and can't begin to review your application until it is complete. However, if the supplemental materials arrive shortly after the deadline, that is acceptable. A member of the Admissions Staff will notify you via email regarding any supplemental material needed for your application to be complete.

In the work history section of the application, how detailed does the role responsibility/accomplishments section have to be?

The Work History section is your opportunity to expand upon your accomplishments and to add
details about your work history, as the resume only provides top-level results. Please provide as much detail as you wish. It's best to provide more information to the Admissions Committee than not enough.

**mba2011** (Jan 6, 2011 3:12:08 PM)
Is it better to apply in Round 2 or Round 3? Are my chances of getting in any different between those 2 rounds?

**Admissions_Julia** (Jan 6, 2011 3:12:08 PM)
Your chances of admission are the same in each round, regardless of which round you apply. The advantage to applying earlier (Round 1 or 2) includes having adequate time to complete your prerequisites after knowing your admissions decision.

**CalBear** (Jan 6, 2011 3:12:53 PM)
My application is ready to be submitted, unfortunately there is a delay with sending in one of my official transcripts. It should arrive next week, but after the deadline. Can I still apply this round?

**Admissions_Tammy** (Jan 6, 2011 3:12:53 PM)
Yes, it is absolutely fine to receive your transcripts next week. Supplemental materials should be postmarked by January 10th (give or take). It is just the GMAT and online application that must be submitted by January 10th.

**akash** (Jan 6, 2011 3:14:29 PM)
Is there any disadvantage to applying in Round 3?

**Admissions_Molly** (Jan 6, 2011 3:14:29 PM)
No. We historically admit the same percentage for each round.

**mbaloren** (Jan 6, 2011 3:16:28 PM)
Is it possible to complete the weekend MBA in less than 3 years?

**Admissions_Julia** (Jan 6, 2011 3:16:28 PM)
Yes, it's possible to complete the program in 5 semesters. The program is designed to be a 3 year, 6 semester (fall and spring) program. Students can accelerate the program by one semester by taking a heavier load of courses and/or by taking a summer course.

**preeti2011** (Jan 6, 2011 3:16:40 PM)
If I’ve already applied for Round 2, when will I be invited for an interview?

**Admissions_Molly** (Jan 6, 2011 3:20:25 PM)
You can be invited to interview at any time after you submit your application.

**mbaloren** (Jan 6, 2011 3:19:52 PM)
Is there a minimum GMAT score requirement? If I am well below the average, should I even bother applying?
No, there is no minimum GMAT score to apply. Even if you are below the average, you should still apply! We review applications holistically rather than focusing just on "your stats." You can be a stand-out candidate in other areas of your application.

Can you tell me more about the interview process? Are invitations to interview sent in bulk within the first few weeks after the deadline?

You can be invited to interview any time from the day after you submit your application until the deadline day. We try to invite most candidates in between those dates. If you have any travel or vacation restrictions, please let us know at ewmbaadm@haas.berkeley.edu, and we will be happy to accommodate you.

Is there any expected (or speculated) tuition increases for the next incoming class?

The per unit pricing for this academic year is $2,387. For planning purposes, students should expect the cost to go up slightly each year. But, there are no major or expected changes, other than that, to tuition for the next incoming class.

Do you admit engineers working as independent contractors?

Yes, we admit applicants with a diverse range of work experience. Be sure to highlight your leadership abilities elsewhere, whether that's through project management at work, extracurricular activities, or elsewhere.

In the resume, do we list the work experiences (mostly part-time) while in school?

Only if it is relevant work experience as compared to your career.

Do we need to report non-collegiate classes taken after graduation, e. g. programming/systems administration training? If so, how should it be reported?

It is great see those courses because they could strengthen your application. You can report this information in the education section and send a transcript. This is not required, but it is helpful to the admissions committee to have a complete understanding of your coursework.
mbaloren (Jan 6, 2011 3:25:59 PM)
How are applicants notified of acceptance?

Admissions_Julia (Jan 6, 2011 3:25:59 PM)
Your status will be changed on the decision date, so make sure to check your status page.

Jenn (Jan 6, 2011 3:28:02 PM)
If you choose one cohort your first year of the program, is it possible to change the last two years?

Admissions_Courtney (Jan 6, 2011 3:28:02 PM)
You are only in a cohort for your first year (i.e. during the core classes). After your first year, you can choose your electives based on what your interests are and your schedule. Thus, you can take both evening and weekend classes during your second and third year.

mbaloren (Jan 6, 2011 3:28:32 PM)
Do I need to be employed for the three years while in the program?

Admissions_Molly (Jan 6, 2011 3:28:32 PM)
The program and curriculum is designed for employed students. However, it has happened that people have been laid off during the program. Students are expected to be working while in the program.

stikalsky (Jan 6, 2011 3:28:36 PM)
How many students are 40 years or older?

Admissions_Tammy (Jan 6, 2011 3:28:36 PM)
Good question. The average age is 32, but we have over 720 students currently in the program. We have students in the program with 20-25 years of work experience. If you have a question about fit, please feel free to contact us directly. We can get you in touch with a student.

CalBear (Jan 6, 2011 3:28:59 PM)
Is it ok to send in additional letters of recommendation?

Admissions_Julia (Jan 6, 2011 3:28:59 PM)
We only require 2 letters of recommendation. We cannot guarantee that any additional letters will be reviewed by the admissions committee.

Maverick (Jan 6, 2011 3:33:11 PM)
In the application supplementary data, we are asked to list any gaps in employment after schooling. If a person has a 2-3 months gap following schooling that was due to job search, should that be listed?

Admissions_Tammy (Jan 6, 2011 3:33:11 PM)
Yes, it would great if you could list it. You don't want to have the Admission Committee
member reading your application to have any questions. A gap in employment isn’t necessarily looked upon negatively, by the way - we just want to know the reason!

**Admissions_Sarah** (Jan 6, 2011 3:33:30 PM)
We make every effort to ensure that cost is not an issue for students. Options for financing your education at Haas include grants, employer tuition support, and student loans. Our website has all the details. [http://www.haas.berkeley.edu/EWMBA/finaid/](http://www.haas.berkeley.edu/EWMBA/finaid/)

**mbaloren** (Jan 6, 2011 3:37:01 PM)
If my employment or job title changes after I submit my application, should I and how do I notify the admissions committee?

**Admissions_Tammy** (Jan 6, 2011 3:37:01 PM)
Please let us know of any updates that you have right away. We want to make sure all important information is included as we review your application. Email anyone in our office, or send an email to ewmbaadm@haas.berkeley.edu.

**Admissions_Courtney** (Jan 6, 2011 3:38:09 PM)
I want to make sure everyone knows about our upcoming Haas Visitation Day on Saturday, February 12th. Experience student life first hand by attending a class and learn more about the program from members of Admissions and current students. Spaces are limited and priority will be given to applicants who live outside of the Bay Area. Additional information can be found on our website at: [http://ewmba.haas.berkeley.edu/admissions/visit.html](http://ewmba.haas.berkeley.edu/admissions/visit.html).

**akash** (Jan 6, 2011 3:38:54 PM)
Do you place more weight on U.S. undergraduate course GPA versus a GPA earned at an international institution?

**Admissions_Julia** (Jan 6, 2011 3:38:54 PM)
Both of these GPAs are equally important. We take a holistic approach to the application review process, meaning that as we evaluate applicants, we consider their academic background, professional experience and accomplishments, and personal qualities as demonstrated by their written responses.

**stikalsky** (Jan 6, 2011 3:39:24 PM)
Do you consider extracurricular commitments?

**Admissions_Sarah** (Jan 6, 2011 3:39:24 PM)
Please include any activity which you feel will strengthen your application.

**Maverick** (Jan 6, 2011 3:43:18 PM)
In the supplementary data section, applicants are requested to list the courses taken that demonstrate quantitative proficiency. Can we list the Math or quantitative courses that we might have taken during our bachelor's or master's degrees? Will that information be redundant considering we are also sending our transcripts?
Admissions_Julia (Jan 6, 2011 3:43:18 PM)
Please feel free to list those quantitative courses despite them being listed on your transcript.

Jenn (Jan 6, 2011 3:47:23 PM)
If one of your recommenders left their position after they sent in your letter of recommendation, should you provide the position detail at the time of recommendation submission as requested in the supplemental questions?

Admissions_Julia (Jan 6, 2011 3:47:23 PM)
I would suggest including this person's past information and title, but also noting they are no longer in that role, and including their new information, if possible.

Jenn (Jan 6, 2011 3:48:23 PM)
Thank you all very much for your responses. It is greatly appreciated.

mbaloren (Jan 6, 2011 3:51:51 PM)
To place out of the math prerequisite, the GMAT math score must be at or above the 80th percentile...is that right?

Admissions_Lindsey (Jan 6, 2011 3:51:51 PM)
Applicants who have scored in the 80th percentile or above, OR received a raw score of 47 or above on the quantitative section of the GMAT will automatically satisfy the prerequisite in college-level mathematics.

Jenn (Jan 6, 2011 3:55:59 PM)
To follow up on mbaloren's question, what if the 47 still places you in a low percentile?

Admissions_Julia (Jan 6, 2011 3:56:00 PM)
That's ok, you would still only need a raw score of 47 to satisfy this requirement.

Ed (Jan 6, 2011 3:56:52 PM)
Do we have to upload a copy of our transcript even though physical copies are sent?

Admissions_Tammy (Jan 6, 2011 3:56:52 PM)
No need to upload a copy if you have sent us the official transcripts. The soft copy upload function is only intended for international transcripts/degree certificates.

Admissions_Sarah (Jan 6, 2011 3:57:30 PM)
Hello everyone! Thank you for joining us. The chat will be wrapping up in a few minutes. We greatly appreciate your questions. Please check back on our website next week for a transcript of today’s chat and for future chat dates. Molly, Tammy, Julia, Lindsey, Courtney and I will continue to address some questions already in the cue, but we will not be forwarding additional questions.

akash (Jan 6, 2011 3:58:39 PM)
Thank you very much.
Admissions_Tammy (Jan 6, 2011 4:00:28 PM)
Thanks for coming everyone. Happy New Year, and we look forward to reading your applications.

Admissions_Sarah (Jan 6, 2011 4:00:33 PM)
Thanks for joining us! If any additional questions come up, feel free to email our office at ewmbaadm@haas.berkeley.edu or call us at 510.642.0292. We look forward to receiving your application!