

[Deadline & Essay] Harvard Business School

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	04 Sep. 2024	10 Dec. 2024
Round 2	06 Jan. 2025	26 Mar. 2025

■ Essays

Applicants to the MBA Class of 2027 (matriculating fall 2025) need to respond to these three essay prompts:

- 1. Business-Minded Essay:** Please reflect on how your experiences have influenced your career choices and aspirations and the impact you will have on the businesses, organizations, and communities you plan to serve. (Up to 300 words)
- 2. Leadership-Focused Essay:** What experiences have shaped who you are, how you invest in others, and what kind of leader you want to become? (Up to 250 words)
- 3. Growth-Oriented Essay:** Curiosity can be seen in many ways. Please share an example of how you have demonstrated curiosity and how that has influenced your growth. (Up to 250 words)

Joint Degree Essays: Joint degree applicants for the Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard Law School, and Harvard Kennedy School must provide an additional essay: How do you expect the joint degree experience to benefit you on both a professional and a personal level? (Up to 400 words)

Joint degree applicants for the Harvard Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences must provide an additional essay: The MS/MBA Engineering Sciences program is focused on entrepreneurship, design, and innovation. Describe your past experiences in these areas and your reasons for pursuing a program with this focus. (recommended length: 500 words). Applicants will also be able to respond to an optional essay.

■ **Link:** [Application Process - MBA - Harvard Business School \(hbs.edu\)](https://hbs.edu)



[Deadline & Essay] Stanford GSB

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	10 Sep. 2024	05 Dec. 2024
Round 2	08 Jan. 2025	03 Apr. 2025
Round 3	08 Apr. 2025	29 May 2025

■ Essays

We request that you write two personal essays. In each essay, we want to hear your genuine voice. Think carefully about your values, passions, aims, and dreams. There is no “right answer” to these questions — the best answer is the one that is truest for you.

□ Essay A: What matters most to you, and why?

For this essay, we would like you to reflect deeply and write from the heart. Once you've identified what matters most to you, help us understand why. You might consider, for example, what makes this so important to you? What people, insights, or experiences have shaped your perspectives?

□ Essay B: Why Stanford?

Describe your aspirations and how your Stanford GSB experience will help you realize them. If you are applying to both the MBA and MSx programs, use Essay B to address your interest in both programs.

- Length: Both essays combined may not exceed 1,000 words. We recommend up to 650 words for Essay A and up to 350 words for Essay B. We often read effective essays that are written in fewer words.

■ **Link:** <https://www.gsb.stanford.edu/programs/mba/admission/application/essays>



[Deadline & Essay] U Penn Wharton

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Interview Invitation	Decision
Round 1	04 Sep. 2024	24 Oct. 2024	10 Dec. 2024
Round 2	03 Jan. 2025	19 Feb. 2025	01 Apr. 2025
Round 3	02 Apr. 2025	18 Apr. 2025	13 May 2025

■ Essays

The Admissions Committee wants to get to know you on both a professional and personal level. We encourage you to be introspective, candid, and succinct. Most importantly, we suggest you be yourself. For additional essay writing resources, see the [essay tips article](#)!

Essay 1: How do you plan to use the Wharton MBA program to help you achieve your future professional goals? You might consider your past experience, short and long-term goals, and resources available at Wharton. (500 words)

Essay 2: Taking into consideration your background – personal, professional, and/or academic – how do you plan to make specific, meaningful contributions to the Wharton community? (400 words)

■ **Link:** <https://mba.wharton.upenn.edu/mba-application-requirements/#internationalapplicants>



[Deadline & Essay] Chicago Booth

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	19 SEP. 2024	05 DEC. 2024
Round 2	07 JAN. 2025	27 MAR. 2025
Round 3	03 APR. 2025	22 May 2025

■ Essays

□ All candidates are required to submit responses to the following two questions:

1. How will a Booth MBA help you achieve your immediate and long-term post-MBA career goals? (Minimum 250 words, no maximum.)
2. An MBA is as much about personal growth as it is about professional development. In addition to sharing your experience and goals in terms of career, we'd like to learn more about you outside of the office. Use this opportunity to tell us something about who you are... (Minimum 250 words, no maximum.)

Format: Submissions must be entered into the text box provided in the application.

■ **Link:** <https://www.chicagobooth.edu/mba/full-time/admissions/how-to-apply>



[Deadline & Essay] Northwestern Kellogg

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	11 Sep. 2024	11 Dec. 2024
Round 2	08 Jan. 2025	26 Mar. 2025
Round 3	02 Apr. 2025	07 May 2025

■ Essays

□ QUESTION 1 (450 WORDS)

Intentionality is a key aspect of what makes our graduates successful Kellogg leaders. Help us understand your journey by articulating your motivations for pursuing an MBA, the specific goals you aim to achieve, and why you believe now is the right moment. Moreover, share why you feel Kellogg is best suited to serve as a catalyst for your career aspirations and what you will contribute to our community of lifelong learners during your time here.

□ QUESTION 2 (450 WORDS)

Kellogg leaders are primed to tackle challenges everywhere, from the boardroom to their neighborhoods. Describe a specific professional experience where you had to make a difficult decision. Reflecting on this experience, identify the values that guided your decision-making process and how it impacted your leadership style.

□ Video essays

We've read your essays; we've read your resume — now we want you to bring all that to life in a video. Show us the person behind all those carefully crafted words.

The video will be comprised of three questions, each designed to help you showcase your personality and share some of the experiences that brought you here today.

Some things to keep in mind as you prepare to complete this section:

- Video essays are due 96 hours after the application deadline.
- A video essay link will appear on your Application Status Page after you submit your application and payment.
- You will need an internet-connected computer with a webcam and microphone.
- The video should take about 20-25 minutes to complete, which includes time for setup.

After submitting your application and payment, you will be able to access the video essay through your Application Status Page.

■ **Link:** [How to Apply — Full-Time MBA | Kellogg School of Management \(northwestern.edu\)](https://northwestern.edu/kellogg/apply)



[Deadline & Essay] MIT Sloan

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines (by 3:00 p.m. EST)

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	30 Sep. 2024	12 Dec. 2024
Round 2	14 Jan. 2025	04 Apr. 2025
Round 3	07 Apr. 2025	15 May 2025

■ **Cover Letter:** MIT Sloan seeks students whose personal characteristics demonstrate that they will make the most of the incredible opportunities at MIT, both academic and non-academic. We are on a quest to find those whose presence will enhance the experience of other students. We seek thoughtful leaders with exceptional intellectual abilities and the drive and determination to put their stamp on the world. We welcome people who are independent, authentic, and fearlessly creative — true doers. We want people who can redefine solutions to conventional problems, and strive to preempt unconventional dilemmas with cutting-edge ideas. We demand integrity and respect passion.

Taking the above into consideration, please submit a cover letter seeking a place in the MIT Sloan MBA program. Your letter should conform to a standard business correspondence, include one or more professional examples that illustrate why you meet the desired criteria above, and be addressed to the Admissions Committee (300 words or fewer, excluding address and salutation).

□ **Video Question 1:** Introduce yourself to your future classmates. Here's your chance to put a face with a name, let your personality shine through, be conversational, be yourself. We can't wait to meet you!

Videos should adhere to the following guidelines:

- No more than 1 minute (60 second) in length
- Single take (no editing)
- Speaking directly to the camera
- Do not include background music or subtitles

□ **Video Question 2:** All MBA applicants will be prompted to respond to a randomly generated, open-ended question. The question is designed to help us get to know you better; to see how you express yourself and to assess fit with the MIT Sloan culture. It does not require prior preparation. It is part of your required application materials and will appear as a page within the application once the other parts of your application are completed. Applicants are given 5 seconds to prepare for a 60-second response.

■ **Link:** [How to Apply to the MBA Program | MBA | MIT Sloan](#)



[Deadline & Essay] CBS

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 January 2025 Entry Application Deadline

	Deadline	Interview	Decision
Round 1	18 June 2024	Rolling	Ongoing, and no later than 15 Aug. 2024
Round 2	15 Aug. 2024	Rolling	Ongoing, and no later than 15 Oct. 2024

□ 2024-2025 August 2025 Entry Application Deadline

	Deadline	Interview	Decision
Round 1	10 Sep. 2024	15 Nov. 2024	20 Dec. 2024
Round 2	07 Jan. 2025	20 Feb. 2025	26 Mar. 2025
Round 3	01 Apr. 2025	01 May 2025	15 May 2025

■ Essays

□ **Essay 1:** Through your resume and recommendation, we have a clear sense of your professional path to date. What are your career goals over the next three to five years and what is your long-term dream job? (500 words)

□ **Essay 2:** The Phillips Pathway for Inclusive Leadership (PPIL) is a co-curricular program designed to provide students with the skills and strategies needed to develop as inclusive leaders. Through various resources and programming, students explore and reflect on the following five inclusive leadership skills: Mitigating Bias and Prejudice; Managing Intercultural Dialogue; Addressing Systemic Inequity; Understanding Identity and Perspective Taking; and Creating an Inclusive Environment.

- Describe a time or situation when you had the need to utilize one of these five skills and tell us the actions you took and the outcome. (250 words)

(August Entry) - Alternatively, please share a specific example of how you made a team more collaborative or fostered a greater sense of community within an organization.

□ **Essay 3:** We believe Columbia Business School is a special place with a collaborative learning environment in which students feel a sense of belonging, agency, and partnership--academically, culturally, and professionally.

How would you co-create your optimal MBA experience at CBS? Please be specific. (250 words)

■ **Link:** <https://academics.gsb.columbia.edu/mba/admissions/options-deadlines>

[Deadline & Essay] Berkeley Haas

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	12 Sep. 2024	12 Dec. 2024
Round 2	09 Jan. 2025	27 Mar. 2025
Round 3	03 Apr. 2025	08 May 2025

■ Essays

□ **Essay 1** What makes you feel alive when you are doing it, and why? (300 words maximum)

□ **Essay 2** What are your short-term and long-term career goals, and how will an MBA from Haas help you achieve those goals?

Short-term career goals should be achievable within 3-5 years post-MBA, whereas long-term goals may span a decade or more and encompass broader professional aspirations. (300 words max)

□ **Experience with Diversity, Equity or Inclusion** One of our goals at Berkeley Haas is to develop leaders who value diversity and to create an inclusive environment in which people from different ethnicities, genders, lived experiences, and national origins feel welcomed and supported.

Describe any experience or exposure you have in the area of diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and belonging whether through community organizations, personal, or in the workplace?

Candidates seeking consideration for mission-aligned fellowships may use this space to reflect on their commitment to the mission of those fellowships. (300 words max)

□ **Video Essay** The Berkeley MBA program develops leaders who embody our four Defining Leadership Principles. Briefly introduce yourself to the admissions committee, explain which Defining Leadership Principle resonates most with you, and tell us how you have exemplified the principle in your personal or professional life.

Please review the Defining Leadership Principles in advance and take time to prepare your answer before recording. You will be able to test your audio-visual connection before recording. Video essays should last 1-2 minutes and may not exceed 2 minutes.

■ **Link:** <https://mba.haas.berkeley.edu/admissions/essays>

[Deadline & Essay] Dartmouth TUCK

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	26 Sep. 2024	12 Dec. 2024
Round 2	06 Jan. 2025	13 Mar. 2025
Round 3	26 Mar. 2025	01 May 2025

*Applicants who submit their complete application (including test scores and Letters of Reference) by the following deadlines (including the Consortium for Graduate Study in Management) will be guaranteed an admissions interview. Round 1: September 3, 2024, 5:00pm ET; Round 2: December 2, 2024 5:00pm ET.

■ Essays

All applicants must respond to the following essay prompts:

1. Why are you pursuing an MBA and why now? How will the distinct Tuck MBA contribute to achieving your career goals and aspirations? (300 words)
2. Tell us who you are. How have your values and experiences shaped your identity and character? How will your background contribute to the diverse Tuck culture and community? (300 words)
3. Describe a time you meaningfully contributed to someone else's sense of inclusion in your professional or personal community. (300 words)

■ **Link:** <https://www.tuck.dartmouth.edu/admissions/applying-to-tuck#deadlines>



[Deadline & Essay] Yale SOM

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	10 Sep. 2024	05 Dec. 2024
Round 2	07 Jan. 2025	20 Mar. 2025
Round 3	08 Apr. 2025	15 May 2025

■ Essays

We want to know what matters to you. The questions below are designed to help us gain insight into your background, passions, motivations, responsibilities, ideals, identities, challenges, or aspirations, depending on where you take your response.

□ Choose One Required Essay

- 1) Describe the biggest commitment you have ever made. Why is this commitment meaningful to you and what actions have you taken to support it? (500 words)
- 2) Describe the community that has been most meaningful to you. What is the most valuable thing you have gained from being a part of this community and what is the most important thing you have contributed to this community? (500 words)
- 3) Describe the most significant challenge you have faced. How have you confronted this challenge and how has it shaped you as a person? (500 words)

■ **Link:** <https://som.yale.edu/programs/mba/admissions/application-information/application-guide>



[Deadline & Essay] NYU Stern

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	16 Sep. 2024	01 Dec. 2024
Round 2	16 Oct. 2024	01 Jan. 2025
Round 3	16 Jan. 2025	01 Apr. 2025
Round 4	16 Apr. 2025	Ongoing

■ Essays

□ **Short Answer:** Professional Aspirations(150 word maximum, double-spaced, 12-point font)
What are your short-term career goals?

□ **Essay 1: Change:** _____ **it** (350 word maximum, double-spaced, 12-point font)

In today's global business environment, the only constant is change. Using NYU Stern's brand call to action, we want to know how you view change. Change: ____ it. Fill in the blank with a word of your choice. Why does this word resonate with you? How will you embrace your own personal tagline while at Stern? Examples:

Change: Dare it.

Change: Dream it.

Change: Drive it.

Change: Empower it.

Change: Manifest it.

Change: [Any word of your choice] it.

□ **Essay 2: Personal Expression (a.k.a. "Pick Six")**

Introduce yourself to the Admissions Committee and to your future classmates using six images and corresponding captions. The Pick Six is a way to share more about the qualities you will bring to the Stern community, beyond your professional and academic achievements. Your uploaded PDF should contain all of the following elements:

A brief introduction or overview of your "Pick Six" (no more than 3 sentences). Six images that help illustrate your interests, values, motivations, perspective and/or personality. A one-sentence caption for each of the six images that helps explain why they were selected and are significant to you.

Note: Your visuals may include photos, infographics, drawings, or any other images. Your document must be uploaded as a single PDF. The essay cannot be sent in physical form or be linked to a website.

■ **Link:** <https://www.stern.nyu.edu/programs-admissions/mba-programs/admissions/essays>



[Deadline & Essay] Virginia Darden

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Early Action	05 Sep. 2024	16 Oct. 2024
Round 1	02 Oct. 2024	11 Dec. 2024
Round 2	07 Jan. 2025	12 Mar. 2025
Round 3	02 Apr. 2025	30 Apr. 2025

■ Essays

For the 2024–25 application cycle, we will again feature short essay questions, which provides a broader platform for applicants to highlight their experiences through multi-dimensional narratives. These questions are a great opportunity for you to help the Darden Admissions Committee understand who you are and who you will be at Darden.

1. Community of Belonging: What would you want your classmates to know about you that is not on your resume? (100 words)
2. Inclusive Impact: Please describe a tangible example that illuminates your experience promoting an inclusive environment and what you would bring to creating a welcoming, global community at Darden. (300 words)
3. Careers With Purpose: At this time how would you describe your short-term, post-MBA goal in terms of industry, function, geography, company size and/or mission and how does it align with the long-term vision you have for your career? (200 words)

■ **Link:** [MBA - Admissions - Apply - Guidelines | UVA Darden School of Business \(virginia.edu\)](https://www.virginia.edu/darden/admissions/apply-guidelines)



[Deadline & Essay] Duke Fuqua

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Interview	Decision
Early Action	04 Sep. 2024	04 Oct. 2024	18 Oct. 2024
Round 1	01 Oct. 2024	18 Nov. 2024	12 Dec. 2024
Round 2	09 Jan. 2025	17 Feb. 2025	14 Mar. 2025
Round 3	20 Feb. 2025	21 Mar. 2025	04 Apr. 2025
Round 4	03 Apr. 2025	18 Apr. 2025	08 May 2025

■ Essays

Required short-answer essay question: What are your post-MBA career goals? Share with us your first-choice career plan and your alternate plan. (100 words)

First required essay: 25 random things about yourself

The 'Team Fuqua' spirit and community is one of the things that sets the MBA experience apart, and it is a concept that extends beyond the student body to include faculty, staff, and administration. Please share with us "25 Random Things" about you. The Admissions Committee wants to get to know YOU - beyond the professional and academic achievements listed in your resume and transcript. Share with us important life experiences, your hobbies, achievements, fun facts, or anything that helps us understand what makes you who you are. **Your list will be limited to 2 pages (750 words maximum). Please present your response in list form, numbered 1 to 25. Some points may be brief, while others may be longer.**

Second required essay: The Fuqua community and you

Fuqua prides itself on cultivating a culture of engagement. Our students enjoy a wide range of student-led organizations that provide opportunities for leadership development and personal fulfillment, as well as an outlet for contributing to society. Our student-led government, clubs, centers, and events are an integral part of the student culture and to the development of leaders. Based on your understanding of the Fuqua culture, what are 3 ways you expect to contribute at Fuqua? **Your response will be limited to 1 page (500 words maximum).**

■ **Link:** [Application Instructions - Daytime MBA | Duke's Fuqua School of Business](#)



[Deadline & Essay] Cornell Johnson

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Initial Notification	Decision
Round 1	18 Sep. 2024	01 Nov. 2024	06 Dec. 2024
Round 2	09 Jan. 2025	14 Mar. 2025	04 Apr. 2025
Round 3	10 Apr. 2025	16 May 2025	30 May 2025

■ Essays

Applicants to the Two-Year Ithaca MBA program must complete a Goals Statement as well as one of two required essay prompts.

□ Goals Statement Prompt: A statement of your goals will begin a conversation that will last throughout the admissions process and guide your steps during the MBA program and experience. To the best of your understanding today, please share your short and long term goals by completing the following sentences and answering the enclosed short answer question (350 words maximum):

Immediately post-MBA, my goal is to work as a(n) *[Role]* at *[Company]* within *[Industry]*.

Targeted Job Role:

Target Job Company:

Industry:

In 5–10 years post-MBA, my goal is to work as a(n) *[Role]* at *[Company]* within *[Industry]*.

Targeted Job Role:

Target Job Company:

Industry:

How has your experience prepared and encouraged you to pursue these goals?

□ Impact Essay or The Unique Trait that Defines Me

- **Impact Essay:** At Cornell, our students and alumni share a desire to positively impact the organizations and communities they serve. How do you intend to make a meaningful impact on the Johnson community? (350 words maximum)

or

- **The Unique Trait that Defines Me:** What is something unique about you that others will remember you by? (350 words maximum)

■ **Link:** [Residential MBA Application Requirements | Cornell Johnson](#)



[Deadline & Essay] Michigan Ross

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	09 Sep. 2024	06 Dec. 2024
Round 2	06 Jan. 2025	14 Mar. 2025
Round 3	24 Mar. 2025	02 May 2025

■ Essays

□ Part 1: Ross Experiences in Action-Based Learning (REAL)

At Michigan Ross, we believe the best way to learn is by doing. In our Full-Time MBA Program, you will put your skills and knowledge to the test in real-world situations with real stakes. How will this learning environment benefit you, and how do you plan to contribute to the action-based learning experience? (300 words)

□ Part 2: How will you make an impact at Michigan Ross?

Michigan Ross is proud to support a community of leaders and impact makers. As a future member of this community, we want to know more about who you are and what drives you. Please choose 1 of the following prompts to tell us more about what makes you stand out beyond your academic and work experience. List the prompt you are answering at the top of your response. (200 words)

- What makes you unique?
- Can you provide a specific example of how you've overcome a personal challenge?
- What makes you excited to get up each morning?
- Describe a time when you made a difference in your community or with an individual.

□ Part 3: Career Aspirations

What is your short-term career goal, and how will Ross help you achieve it? (200 words)

■ **Link:** <https://michiganross.umich.edu/graduate/full-time-mba/admissions/application-requirements>



[Deadline & Essay] Texas-Austin McCombs

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	15 Oct. 2024	17 Dec. 2024
Round 2	15 Jan. 2025	27 Mar. 2025
Round 3*	01 Apr. 2025	29 Apr. 2025
Round 4	15 May 2025	05 June 2025

* Round 3: Last International Applicant Deadline

■ Essays

The essay prompts serve as a powerful storytelling tool, allowing you to share narratives and insights that may not be captured elsewhere in your application. The essay section has been refreshed for the 2024-2025 cycle, now featuring three prompts with a 250-word limit for each response. These are purposefully designed to elicit thoughtful and introspective responses that reveal your motivations, values, and aspirations.

Please complete the required essay prompts below and upload them to your application prior to submission.

□ Essay 1 - 250 Words

At Texas McCombs, we do things a little differently. We embrace those who take the initiative and forge new paths. What ambitious goal or change do you aim to achieve with an MBA, and why is Texas McCombs your ideal launch pad?

□ Essay 2 - 250 Words

Here, you are what's next. At this pivotal crossroads where you're deciding your future path, the Texas McCombs MBA experience will equip you with the tools and mindset to make "what's next" happen in your career. Please share unique qualities you possess that highlight your potential to shake up the status quo in your professional life.

□ Essay 3 - 250 Words

The University of Texas at Austin's motto, "What starts here changes the world," embodies a spirit of impact and transformation. What fuels your drive to lead change and make your mark in the world?

■ **Link:** <https://www.mcombs.utexas.edu/graduate/mba/full-time-mba/admissions/application-process/>



[Deadline & Essay] UCLA Anderson

■ Deadlines

□ 2024-2025 Application Deadlines

	Deadline	Decision
Round 1	01 Oct. 2024	13 Dec. 2024
Round 2	06 Jan. 2025	27 Mar. 2025
Round 3	14 Apr. 2025	16 May 2025

■ Essays

□ We look forward to learning about your perspectives and plans via your responses to the short essay prompts. Essays complement the answers you provide throughout the application to show us your whole profile. The best applications are introspective, genuine, and succinct in directly answering our questions and showing clear plans for the future.

A) Short Essay Prompts: For the 2024-2025 application year, we have three short essay prompts that are required for first-time applicants:

1 - Why are you pursuing an MBA? (150 words)

2 - Describe your short-term and long-term post-MBA career goals. (150 words)

3 - At Anderson, our mission is to prepare transformative leaders by developing students to think innovatively, problem-solve, and adapt to others – all with a driven and purposeful mindset. How do you plan to achieve your goals and develop into a transformative leader during your time at UCLA Anderson? (250 words)

Strong essays describe the impact of your achievement and clarify its connection to your future MBA plans in the short- and long-term. We look forward to learning about the specific ways your achievement helped set you up for future success.

B) Optional Essay: No preference is given in the evaluation process to those who choose to respond to this optional essay, so please use your best judgment: Are there any extenuating circumstances in your profile about which the Admissions committee should be aware? (250 words maximum)

■ **Link:** <https://www.anderson.ucla.edu/degrees/full-time-mba/admissions/requirements>