

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR FSU ONLINE MBA

In late April, FSU announced a waiver of all graduate entrance exams for the Fall 2020 term only. Since that time, the FSU College of Business has experienced an unprecedented and massive influx of inquiries into our online MBA program. While this is excellent news and we are willing and able to accommodate new students, the number of emails and calls that our staff members have received with questions about the application process and the program have become challenging to address in a timely manner. We want to provide our potential students with the highest quality support we can. So, we have developed this list of frequently asked questions that represents questions we receive from interested students and applicants on a daily basis. If, after reviewing these items thoroughly, you are unable to find the answer to your question, we will be happy to help. We look forward to working with you through the application process.

Application Questions

- **How long will it take for me to receive a decision on my application?**

Once we have received all your application materials, your application is forwarded to the admissions committee for review. You can generally expect a response within 7-14 days from the time you complete submission of your materials.

- **Can I get a GMAT waiver for a term other than Fall 2020?**

The university-wide waiver of graduate entrance exams applies only to the Fall 2020 term. If you are applying for Spring 2021 or beyond, you may still qualify for a waiver of the exam if you meet one of the criteria in our [GMAT Waiver policy](#).

- **Where can I send my transcript?**

Please send official transcripts, Florida Resident Affidavits, and official exam scores, if applicable, to the following address:

FSU Admissions Office
PO Box 3062400,
282 Champions Way,
Florida State University,
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2400

Please note that we can accept also electronic official transcripts at graduateadmissions@fsu.edu.

- **Are unofficial transcripts okay?**

The office of admissions requires an official transcript from every institution you attended from which you received credit. The admissions committee can review your application based on

unofficial transcripts, but in the event you are admitted, the Admissions Office will need to be in receipt of your official transcripts before you can register for classes.

- **FSU transcripts**

If you received your undergraduate degree from Florida State University, you do not need to have your undergraduate transcript sent to FSU.

- **When/how do I upload letters of recommendation?**

When you complete your graduate application, you will be asked to submit the names and email addresses of your recommenders. The system will then send the recommenders an email with instructions for submitting the letters to the application system.

We do not have a standard format for letters of recommendation. Please have your recommenders address them to the MBA Admissions Committee. We are looking for letters that can speak to your abilities both professionally and academically. Unfortunately, your recommenders cannot upload their letters to your application until you submit the application and proceed to part 2 of the application wherein you input their contact information. You can contact your recommenders and tell them that you will be requesting letters from them. That way they can have their letters of recommendation ready to be uploaded when the time comes.

- **Is there a separate application for the specialization?**

There is a supplemental form within the MBA application where you can indicate your preferred specialization. You can only choose one in the form, but if you change your mind later we will be happy to allow you to change your stated preference.

- **Is there a minimum work experience requirement?**

The MBA Admissions committee is looking for individuals who have good professional business experience or a significant business-focused internship. If you do not have any work experience or an internship, we recommend that you secure a professional internship before applying.

- **Do I need an undergraduate degree in Business or any undergraduate business coursework to be admitted?**

There are no prerequisite courses required to be admitted to the FSU MBA program. Previous coursework in business is not required, but all applicants are expected to have a general knowledge of economics, finance, accounting, statistics, calculus, and management principles.

- **Can I defer my admission to another term?**

You are required to enroll in classes in the term for which you were admitted in order for you admission to remain active. We do not allow admission deferments.

Program Questions

- **Do I have to come to campus at any time?**

There is no requirement to come to campus for any part of the online program. During the graduating term, you will be invited to attend a master's hooding ceremony to celebrate your accomplishment. This event is optional.

- **Is the program asynchronous?**

Our online degree programs are completely asynchronous and designed with the working professional's busy schedule in mind. They can be completed from anywhere in the world and courses can be completed on your own schedule. There is no point where you are required to login and attend a live lecture. Some courses may have recorded lectures but most run off of discussion boards, group projects and written lectures.

- **How long does it take to complete the program?**

The program is 39 credit hours and can be completed in seven semesters on a part-time basis.

- **Can you customize your program of study?**

The online MBA is a part-time program that is fully customizable and 100% asynchronous. You can take up to 3 courses per semester or just 1 course. The normal progression is 2 classes per semester including Summers and takes 7 semesters or 28 months to complete. If you take 3 courses per semester you can finish in 5 semesters. If you take just 1 course per semester (Spring, Summer and Fall) it would take 13 semesters to complete or 4 years and 3 months. The only restriction you have is that you must complete your degree within 7 years of your matriculation date.

- **What is the cost?**

The total estimated program cost is \$30,427.02 for Florida Residents and \$31,599.36 for non-Florida residents. There is a slight difference between Florida Resident and non-Florida Resident tuition. The \$444.26 is the base tuition for Florida residents and does not include auxiliary distance learning fees. The \$780.18 includes all tuition and fees. Further details are located under Program Costs on our [website](#).

- **How are the classes structured?**

All our courses are delivered via Canvas and use many different formats to disseminate information; including, but not limited to, recorded lectures, discussion boards, case studies, group projects, written assignments, quizzes and exams.

- **Will my degree indicate that it was completed online?**

FSU's online MBA program has the same curricula and is taught by the same faculty as our on-campus programs. The programs are the same, and the quality of the curriculum is the same. There will be no indication on your diploma or transcript that the courses were taken in an online format.

- **Are there scholarships available?**

Financial Assistance options are listed under Program Costs on our [website](#). Additionally, The College of Business has a limited number of scholarship funds for which you may apply. Applications for those are accepted on an ongoing basis, with awards announced in late spring, early summer and paid out in fall and spring of the following year. Once you are admitted, you will receive an email with a link to the College of Business Scholarship Application.

- **Are the courses 8 weeks or for the full semester?**

All courses are taught on the same schedule as the on-campus programs. FSU has three semesters: summer, fall, and spring. Generally, the fall term begins in late August and runs through the middle of December. Spring begins in early January and runs through the end of April, and the summer term begins in early May and runs through the end of July.

- **Can I use transfer credit from a previous graduate program?**

Transfer credit can only be used if a B or better was earned from an AACSB accredited institution in a course that would be equivalent to one of our MBA courses and the credit was not previously applied to a degree.

In order to get transfer credit, you will need to find a course that we offer (course list here: <http://business.fsu.edu/mba#courses>) for which one of your courses would be equivalent. We will then need a copy of your transcript and the course syllabus so that we may request transfer permission from the MBA chairman. It is Florida State University College of Business policy that you cannot transfer more than 6 credit hours for a graduate degree. This is due to the College of Business minimum requirement of 33 FSU credit hours to earn a graduate degree from FSU.

- **Do I need to get an FSU Card?**

You are not required to get an FSU card. However, if you wish to obtain an actual FSU ID card, instructions can be found on the FAQ page of the [FSUCARD](#) website. Distance Learning Students may obtain their FSUCard via email. Email the [FSUCard Agreement](#), photo ID (Driver's License, Passport, etc.) and your mailing address to fsucard@fsu.edu. You can also visit the FSU Card Center if you visit campus. The FSUCard Center is located inside the FSU Bookstore at 104 N Woodward Ave. They are open 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday to assist you. Cashier hours are 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday - Friday.