

Business School FAQ

Is there a Pre-Business Curriculum at UCI or is there a Specific Major that Pre-Business Students Should Choose?

Business schools do not look for any specific majors and accept students from a variety of backgrounds. UCI's business major is not available yet, but there exists minors in management and accounting in the Paul Merage School of Business. In addition, the Paul Merage School of Business offers a wide range of courses that are also taught at the M.B.A. level. Applications are due by the end of the 6th week and information can be found at: www.merage.uci.edu.

What Should I Major in if I want to go to Grad School for Business?

Although certain majors can help you get a job in certain professions, choosing a major that does not interest you is not a good approach. You can always choose a major you enjoy the most and minor in a different area that will provide you with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in business.

Are there Any Courses that I Should Take Before I Apply?

Basic courses in calculus, statistics, economics, accounting, computer science, and management can help, and are sometimes are required. Other courses in communication, public speaking, logic, composition, and foreign language are also beneficial.

What Can I Do As An Undergraduate To Better Prepare Myself For The Business World?

- Stay up to date with the latest business-related news
- Gain experience through summer internships and part-time jobs.
- Develop relationships with professors so that they can speak for your academic strengths
- Prepare for the GMAT early on, preferably one year ahead of the scheduled test
- Learn as much as possible about different types of M.B.A. programs and what they can do for you
- Attend programs at the Career Center, Paul Merage School of Business, student organizations, and related lectures

Will a Double Major Increase My Chances of Getting into my Business School of Choice?

No; although it would not hurt, it is irrelevant when it comes to admissions decisions.

When Should I Take the GMAT?

If applying to schools during the last year of college, the GMAT should be taken after your junior year, or fall of your senior year.

Students tend to score better if they take the GMAT after their junior year and scores last for 5 years. This test should not be taken for practice, as up to three scores are reported.

What Factors are Most Important in Admissions Decisions (varies by school)?

Objective Factors (Usually count for 50-60% of the decision)

- Undergraduate GPA
- GMAT score

Subjective Factors (Usually count for 40-50% of the decision)

- Demonstrated leadership ability
- Participation in worthwhile activities
- Relevant work experience
- Evidence of potential contribution to the business world
- Personal interviews

Recommendations

- The Career Center's Letters of Recommendation (LOR) service can help your manage your letters of recommendation electronically, saving time for you and those who write your letters.



What are the Application Requirements for Getting an MBA?

They will differ based on each school, so it is best to visit each website. Typically, you will need a GMAT score, letters of recommendation (from employers if experienced), transcripts, personal statements, a resume, and an interview.

