



MBA Early Admission / Deferred MBA Programs

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ABOUT PERSONAL MBA COACH

Personal MBA Coach has helped hundreds of applicants around the world get into top MBA, EMBA, part-time MBA and graduate programs including HBS, Stanford, Wharton, Chicago Booth, Kellogg, Columbia GSB, Dartmouth Tuck, MIT Sloan, London Business School, INSEAD, Yale SOM, UVA Darden, Duke Fuqua, Berkeley Haas, NYU Stern and many more with a 96% success rate. Last cycle our clients earned \$10M in total scholarships.

Personal MBA Coach was founded in 2008 by Scott Edinburgh, a former management consultant and industry strategist with an MBA from Wharton and a BS from MIT. With a boutique and personalized approach, Scott helps turn analytical, general management and client services experiences into the powerful and convincing stories that admissions committee members are looking for. Personal MBA Coach helps clients through all aspects of the application process, including application strategy, pre-application planning, GMAT/GRE/EA prep and school selection. Scott is on the Board of Directors and is a Committee Chair of AIGAC (Association of International Graduate Admissions Consultants: an organization that meets annually with admissions directors of the top 25 schools globally). Learn how Personal MBA Coach can make your dreams a reality by walking you step by step through the entire process.

SERVICES OFFERED

- Comprehensive Packages
- GMAT/GRE/EA Tutoring
- Interview Preparation
- Waitlist Support
- Gut Check
- Early MBA Planning

WHAT SETS PERSONAL MBA COACH APART

- Founded by Scott Edinburgh, a Wharton MBA, member of AIGAC Board of Directors and industry veteran with 17 years of admissions consulting experience
- Scott presents globally and was invited to present to admissions directors at GMAC conference
- Prior corporate experience to inform your essays and goals, including consulting, banking and strategy
- Former M7 admissions directors and M7 MBA interviewers on our team
- Flexible scheduling and fast turnaround times
- Personalized and customized GMAT/GRE/EA tutoring
- One point of contact
- Direct, honest feedback
- Internal network of former clients at all top schools

Comprehensive Packages Overview



1. Application Strategy & Story Development

Personal MBA Coach consultants learn more about your background and develop a thorough application strategy for you to follow, helping fine-tune your educational goals and articulate your distinct story. This includes compiling a list of schools you want to attend. Your consultant will review your credentials and work experience to help you identify what programs make sense for you based on factors like your test score, grades, scholarship desires, ideal study location and more.



2. Resume Review

Structure your MBA resume using our provided templates. We will go over your education and career accomplishments to paint an accurate picture of you on paper and make sure to turn your professional resume into an MBA resume that resonates with admissions directors. Our experts will help edit your resume so that it follows the correct format and uses effective language throughout. The Personal MBA Coach team knows what top schools are looking for when admitting students into their programs, so we make sure you stand out by including only important resume details.



3. Essay Brainstorming and Unlimited Essay Editing

Building from your personal story, you will partner with your admissions consultant to brainstorm topics and develop award-winning essays that allow you to stand out among other applicants. We provide you with school-specific insider knowledge as to what MBA programs are looking for in MBA application essays. You can submit your admissions essay and short-answer responses to us as many times as it takes to get them right. We provide you with feedback in two days and work seven days a week. We will check that you answer questions fully and provide enough detail to impress application essay reviewers. Count on Personal MBA Coach to catch spelling and grammar mistakes before the final submission of your personal development pieces.



4. Video Essay Feedback

Some of the leading MBA programs in the U.S., Europe and Canada require a video essay submission. For the live videos, we will send you software that you can use to practice sample video questions on your own.

Personal MBA Coach comprehensive packages involve sharing feedback on sample recordings to improve your confidence and perfect your video delivery.



5. Letter of Recommendation Support

To enhance your overall application, we will guide you through the process of selecting which of your contacts is best suited to write your letters of recommendation. Our consultants will help you develop the best timing and approach for reaching out and determining how much information and guidance your contact will need to write a letter that aligns with your overall application.



6. Interview Preparation

Personal MBA Coach organizes mock interviews with former M7 and T10 admissions interviewers from our team. Our interviewers provide you with written feedback to help you hone your skills. You have the option to participate in group interviews as well as to grow your skills for all interview structures. For Wharton, we will conduct mock group interviews with former group interviewers.



7. Pre/Post Interview Essay Editing

Harvard Business School, Chicago Booth and MIT Sloan ask that some candidates selected to interview submit an additional essay or video for their MBA program applications. Our personalized MBA admissions services in our comprehensive package include editing your follow-up written or recorded pieces. We will verify that your writing and speaking tone is consistent during the application process so that everything you submit is of the highest quality.



8. Waitlist Strategy & Post Acceptance Support

Our relationship does not end when you hit submit. Whether you are accepted or waitlisted, we will continue our personal support. Find out how and when to reach out to get off the waitlist, receive guidance on your waitlist update and get our advice on which school best suits your goals. We will connect you with former clients at your future school and across all schools as you join the small Personal MBA Coach alumni family.



Harvard Business School 2+2

“The 2+2 Program is a deferred admission process for current students, either in college or full-time master’s degree programs. It is comprised of at least two years of professional work experience followed by two years in the regular HBS MBA Program. We’re looking for innovative thinkers who have demonstrated leadership and analytical skills and want to develop their knowledge and passion to make a difference in the world. Upon graduation, admitted 2+2 students spend a minimum of two years (maximum of four years) working in a professional position in the public, private, or nonprofit sector.

College seniors from any academic background are eligible to apply (more on eligibility below). Some preference will be given to high potential individuals on paths that aren’t as well established in leading to graduate business school, including applicants: Planning to work in an operating company, from a lower socio-economic background (first generation in college, lower income family background, less family exposure to graduate school), going into a technically demanding role, pursuing entrepreneurship.”

Eligibility

- Candidates from bachelor’s degree programs
- Candidates from joint bachelor’s/graduate degree programs
- Candidates from graduate degree programs who have not held a full-time work position (other than internships or co-ops). To be eligible for the 2+2 program, candidates need to have gone directly from undergraduate to graduate school.

Essays

- Part 1: Personal Essays (choose two- up to 300 words per prompt)
- The HBS classroom and community thrive when we bring together people who can share a variety of perspectives. To get to know you better and how you will engage at HBS, please choose two of the three prompts below to tell us more about yourself:
- How have your experiences shaped who you are, how you lead, and how you will contribute at HBS?
- What intellectual experiences have influenced your approach to learning and have led you to pursue an MBA?
- What communities have you been engaged with that have defined how you invest in others?



Harvard Business School 2+2 (cont.)

- Part 2: Career Essay (up to 300 words)
- How do the career plans you shared in the Career Plans section of the application fit into your current long-term career vision? What skills and/or professional experiences do you hope to obtain in the deferral period that will help build the foundation for your post-MBA career?

Deadline

- 4/25/2024

Fee

- \$100 application fee



Wharton Advance Access Program

“The Moelis Advance Access Program is a deferred enrollment program that offers students in their final year of undergraduate and full-time graduate degree programs a guaranteed pathway to the Wharton MBA. After admission, admitted students pursue two to four years of quality work experience before matriculating in the full-time MBA program.

The program seeks students who are ambitious, innovative, and prepared to use a sense of professional liberty to maximize their early career experiences while impacting the world. Students from all academic fields and disciplines are encouraged to apply, and the program accepts a highly selective cohort of students, named Moelis Fellows, whose academic and career interests expand the traditional notions of business education.”

Eligibility

- The Moelis Advance Access Program accepts applications from students who are in the process of completing or recently completed their bachelor’s, full-time master’s, or other graduate degree.

Essays

- 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)
- 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)
- **Optional essay:** Please use this space to share any additional information about yourself that cannot be found elsewhere in your application and that you would like to share with the Admissions Committee. (500 words)

Deadline

- 4/24/2024

Fee

- \$100 application fee



Columbia Deferred Enrollment Program

“The Columbia Business School Deferred Enrollment Program offers undergraduate students the opportunity to gain a few years of work experience with a guarantee of admission to Columbia’s highly selective MBA program, and the flexibility to begin the full-time program two to five years after college graduation.

Columbia is looking for future leaders from all academic and personal backgrounds to maintain the diverse and supportive community for which Columbia is known.”

Eligibility

- Students graduating during the current academic year from a bachelor’s degree program. (Example: Those who graduate between September 1, 2023 and August 31, 2024 are eligible to apply for the 2024 Deferred Enrollment Program admissions cycle)
- Students completing a graduate degree program. Candidates must have started the graduate degree program directly after completing their undergraduate degree to be eligible for the Deferred Enrollment Program. Students enrolled in Ph.D. programs, law school, or medical school are **not** eligible.

Essays

- Applying to a deferred enrollment program suggests that your aspirations in the next 2-5 years will include an MBA. Why do you feel you need an MBA to achieve your long-term career goals and why would you like to pursue your MBA at Columbia Business School? (300 words)
- Contributing to the community is an important part of the CBS experience. Discuss one experience or situation in your undergraduate or graduate career where you feel you contributed to your community and what you learned from the experience. (250 words)
- **Optional Essay:** Is there any further information that you wish to provide the Admissions Committee? If so, use this space to provide an explanation of any areas of concern in your academic record or your personal history. This does not need to be formal. You may submit bullet points. (500 words maximum)

Deadline

- 4/15/2024

Fee

- No application fee



Yale SOM Silver Scholars

“As a Silver Scholar, you will spend your first year at Yale SOM developing the basic skills and mindset of a manager through our innovative core curriculum. During the second year, you will complete a full-time internship; this extended work experience will help you put your business education into practice, develop your leadership skills, and give you a competitive advantage as you pursue a permanent position. In your third year, you will return to campus for the conclusion of the MBA program, taking electives at Yale SOM and elsewhere at the university in the areas that most interest you and support your career goals.”

Eligibility

- If you are a college senior and your degree will be conferred between August 1, 2023 and July 31, 2024, you may apply in any round of the 2023-2024 application cycle.
- If you are in a one- or two-year graduate program that started in the academic year immediately following the conferral of your undergraduate degree, and you did not take more than a few months to work in between the two programs, you are eligible to apply as a Silver Scholar.

Essay

“We want to know what matters to you, and our essay question is designed to help us gain insight into your background, passions, motivations, responsibilities, ideals, identities, challenges, or aspirations, depending on where you take your response. To ensure that you’re able to write about something important to you, we offer you three essay prompts from which to choose:

- Describe the biggest commitment you have ever made. Why is this commitment meaningful to you and what actions have you taken to support it?
- 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?
- Describe the most significant challenge you have faced. How have you confronted this challenge and how has it shaped you as a person?

The word limit is 500 words.”

Deadlines

- 1/4/2024; 4/9/2024

Fee

- \$250 application fee. Reduced fee of \$125 for applicants earning under \$20,000/year.



Chicago Booth Scholars Program

“Undergraduate students who are considering an MBA in the future can apply to Chicago Booth’s Full-Time MBA Program during their final year of studies. The Chicago Booth Scholars Program allows you to complete the MBA application process while still at your undergraduate institution, then start at Chicago Booth after a conditional two to four year deferment period for professional experience. Chicago Booth Scholars is an early impact program that offers promising undergraduates the chance to secure a seat in the next generation of MBA talent.”

Eligibility

The following students are eligible to apply to the Chicago Booth Scholars Program:

- Candidates in their final year of a bachelor’s degree program
- Candidates in their final year of a joint bachelor’s/master’s degree program
- To be considered for admission to the Chicago Booth Scholars 2024 cycle, you must be graduating from your program between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024.
- Students that plan to participate in a Marshall, Fulbright, or Rhodes Scholarship are also eligible to apply.

Essays

- **Short-Answer Question:** What do you plan to accomplish after graduation and prior to starting your MBA?
- How will the Booth MBA help you achieve your immediate and long-term post-MBA career goals? (250 words minimum)
- 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. (250 words minimum)
- **Optional Essay:** Is there any unclear information in your application that needs further explanation? If so, please use this section to clarify. (300 words maximum)

Deadline

- 4/4/2024

Fee

- No application fee



UVA Darden's Future Year Scholars

"Darden's Future Year Scholars Program offers exceptional college students the opportunity to gain acceptance into one of the world's top MBA programs before beginning their professional journey. Admitted scholars may choose to begin their MBA after gaining two to five years of work experience."

Eligibility

- Any bachelor's degree student in their final year of study
- Any full-time masters student that has not held a full-time work position
- Students who graduate between October 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024 are eligible to apply in spring 2024, even if they begin full-time employment after their graduation.

Essays

- What would you want your classmates to know about you that is not on your resume? (100 words)
- 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)
- At this time how would you describe your short-term, post-undergraduate goal in terms of industry, function, geography, company size and/or mission and how does an MBA align with the long-term vision you have for your career? (200 words)

Deadlines

- 4/8/2024; 8/1/2024

Fee

- No application fee



Stanford GSB Deferred Enrollment

“Deferred enrollment is designed for students without full-time work experience to:

- Pursue opportunities that enable you to build expertise, enhance your skills and knowledge, expand your perspective, and develop professional judgment and self-confidence.
- Explore an industry (or two) before earning your MBA if you are unsure about your long-term professional path, especially if you are a college senior.
- Prepare for certain industries — private equity, biotechnology, and management consulting in particular — which tend to recruit MBA candidates who have pre-MBA work experience or specialized knowledge in that field.”

Eligibility

- You are in your final year of a bachelor’s degree or a joint bachelor/graduate program, and your degree will be conferred between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2024.
- You began a master’s degree, PhD, law, or medical degree in the academic year immediately following an undergraduate or undergraduate/graduate program. You did not work full-time (other than internships or co-ops) before starting the graduate program. Your degree will be conferred between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2024.

Essays

- What matters most to you and why? (650 words suggested)
- Why Stanford? (400 words suggested)

Deadlines

- 1/4/2024; 4/9/2024

Fee

- Reduced fee of \$100



MIT Sloan MBA Early Admission

“This application process is designed for ambitious and forward-thinking students around the globe who want to secure a seat in a future MIT Sloan MBA class. Apply now, and then work for two to five years before beginning your MBA program at MIT, the home of innovation.”

Eligibility

MIT Sloan MBA Early Admission is currently open to all enrolled undergraduate and graduate students who are:

- Undergraduate students who are in their final year of undergraduate studies; and graduate between August 2023 and September 2024; and will not enroll in an MD, JD, or PhD program immediately after completing an undergraduate program; and have not had any prior full-time work experience with the exception of internships or co-op experiences
- Graduate students who are in their final year of a graduate program; and graduate between August 2023 and September 2024; and started graduate school immediately after obtaining their undergraduate degree; and have not had any prior full-time work experience with the exception of internships or co-op experiences; **or** are currently enrolled in their final semester of either the MIT Sloan MFin or MBAn program

Essays

- Please submit a cover letter seeking a place in the Sloan MIT 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)
- 60-second video statement introduction to future classmates

Deadline

- 1/19/2024

Fee

- No application fee



Kellogg Future Leaders

“Getting accepted as a Kellogg Future Leader secures your place in our MBA program *before* you graduate. Then, we’ll hold your spot for 2-5 years while you gain experience in the professional world. Once you’re ready to step back on campus, you’ll be fully integrated into one of our top-tier MBA programs. Another perk? As a part of your deferred enrollment, you’ll have access to premiere Kellogg resources and receive support from a dedicated admissions officer.”

Eligibility

- Undergraduates in the last year of school, majoring in any discipline
- Master’s students who went directly into a graduate program from undergrad
- *Ph.D., medical and law students should apply through the standard Kellogg admissions process*

Essays

- Kellogg Leaders are primed to tackle today’s pressing concerns everywhere, from the boardroom to their neighborhoods. Tell us about a time in your life where you’ve needed a combination of skills to solve a problem or overcome a challenge. Which skills did you use? What did you accomplish? (450 words)
- At Kellogg, our values are based on research that concludes organizations comprised of leaders with varied backgrounds and perspectives outperform homogeneous ones. How do you believe your personal and professional experiences to date will help to enrich the Kellogg community? (450 words)
- **Optional essay:** We know that life is full of extenuating circumstances. Whether you want to explain gaps in work experience, your choice of recommenders, inconsistent or questionable academic performance or something else, you can use this section to briefly tell us anything we need to know about your application. (280 words)

Deadline

- 4/24/2024

Fee

- No application fee



Berkeley Haas Accelerated Access

“Undergraduates who are considering an MBA in their future can now apply to the top-ranked full-time MBA program at Berkeley Haas. Accelerated Access allows you to complete the MBA application process while in your final year of study, gain conditional admission, and then start your study at Berkeley Haas after a two to five year deferment period for professional experience.”

Eligibility

- Undergraduate students in their final year of study, with a graduation date between July 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024.
- Graduate students without full-time employment who enrolled in their graduate program immediately after completing their undergraduate studies, with a graduate degree graduation date between July 1, 2023 and September 30, 2024.

Essays

- What makes you feel alive when you are doing it, and why? (300 words maximum)
- What kind of leader do you aspire to be and why? (300 words maximum)

Deadline

- 4/25/2024

Fee

- No application fee



I got accepted into the Deferred Enrollment Program at CBS, and I have the Personal MBA Coach Team and Scott to thank for this. They helped connect my experiences and accomplishments to my future goals and portray it in an apt manner to the Adcoms. They are upfront about their feedback and only had my success in mind throughout the process. Innumerable rounds of review does not bother them. The interview prep is also spot on and extremely helpful to a nervous interviewee like myself. Without them, I don't think I would get into any deferred MBA program. I would strongly recommend them to any potential candidate.

— COLUMBIA BUSINESS SCHOOL



Scott knows the MBA admission world. I was working on a time crunch, as I decided to apply to deferred MBA programs fairly last minute, but Scott was patient and very helpful regardless. His best trait is knowing when to say no and being straightforward. I like that he would never hesitate to tell me when something I wrote is not adding value and will provide suggestions to other ways to approach the essay.

— CHICAGO BOOTH SCHOLARS ADMIT



As a deferred applicant, I worked with Scott at Personal MBA Coach to prepare for Wharton, and the process was seamless... I appreciate how Scott offered clear guidance on my work. I left each call and draft review with a clear understanding of what I needed to do next. I still remember leaving my initial call with Scott feeling excited to start my essays!

Moreover, I love that PMC includes people who worked in admissions for top MBA programs previously. Working with Scott felt like I was walking into the application process with all the answers.

— WHARTON

LET PERSONAL MBA COACH HELP

Helping clients since 2008, our boutique one-on-one approach has led to a 96% success rate!

Call or email for a consultation with founder, Scott Edinburgh

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