
Web Resources:

- Stacy Blackman Website: <http://www.stacyblackman.com/>
 - Stacy Blackman Twitter Handle: <https://twitter.com/stacyblackman>
 - Stacy Blackman Forum on GMAT Club: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-stacy-blackman-consulting-168/>
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- **Q1:** What is the role of the GMAT score in the application?

A1: GMAT is standard across applicants. Tests quant, analytical and problem solving skills. <http://tinyurl.com/qalmxmp>

- **Q2:** Should you be concerned about other applicants during your application process? Do you need to keep an eye on competition?

A2: Focus on what you can control –your application. It's impossible to know who else is applying. Don't worry about them.

- **Q3:** How should I determine the best match schools for my application? Using GMAT Score?

A3: Consider what's impt to you, research schools to find good fit. See SBC blog: <http://tinyurl.com/oexg93s>

- **Q4:** Does school rank really matter? What is the benefits of going to a higher ranked school after graduation?

A4: Rankings differ. Understand how they work and decide if it's impt to YOU. Student satisfaction, employer opinions

- **Q5:** I hear about "fit" here and there. What is Fit? Should I be concerned about it?

A5: Yes because adcoms care. They want you to fit with culture and personality. Research schools to see what they value

- **Q6:** School Visit – do you recommend it?

A6: Not essential but always a bonus. Way to research schools and demonstrate interest. SBC blog <http://tinyurl.com/ovcgzbe>

- **Q7:** What is the most important part of the MBA application?

A7: Every part matters! A holistic process where they evaluate all aspects. Recs and essays very impt& you can control them now.

- **Q8:** What are the biggest mistakes applicants make?

A8: Not researching schools, not managing recommenders, telling what and not explaining "why"
<http://tinyurl.com/pfzoy83>

- **Q9:** How to make best use of Adcom/Current Students/Alumni meetings?

A9: Be genuine and ask questions, be yourself, have an open mind and learn about the schools. Don't lobby for an admit. #

- **Q10:** Role of Recommendation letters in MBA application and how to choose recommenders?

A10: Recs impt, 1st choice always ask boss at current job. SBC blog <http://tinyurl.com/dzj7c4>

- **Q11:** What common mistakes applicants make in their application essays?

A11: Trying to appear perfect, telling what not why, only discussing career, not being authentic, not answering the ques

- **Q12:** GPA, GMAT, App Essays, Interview, WorkExp&Extra Curriculars. Arrange in the order of their importance – what would it be?

A12: All impt and one can compensate for another. Figure out your story that will highlight pros and explain cons

- **Q13:** What applicants from over represented applicant pool (e.g. Indian – IT – Male) can do to stand out their applications?

A13: Focus on personal story as opposed to credentials that can look like others. Think about why you did what you did.

- **Q14:** In case of low GPA, what kind of additional academics are schools often willing to take into account besides GMAT scores?

A14: Rec validation of intelligence, capabilities, post grad courses, quant exp at work. SBC blog
<http://tinyurl.com/odtmeny>

- **Q15:** What are the characteristics of good and bad essays? What's the ideal time to start essays writing?

A15: Good essays – authentic, personal, tell of mistakes AND accomp. Bad– try to be like everyone else.
<http://tinyurl.com/qbhsj9g>



- **Q16:** How do adcoms look at multiple GMAT attempts? Can multiple attempts hurt applicants' chances?

A16: Multiple attempts don't hurt, but no point if score not improving. Retake if u feel u can improve.

<http://tinyurl.com/qdqbtrq>

- **Q17:** What does an ideal recommendation letter look like? How to choose recommenders?

A17: Good rec letter has very specific examples & stories to back up claims. Shows recommender knows candidate. <http://goo.gl/eOm4Am>

- **Q18:** How schools see an applicant who has a vast international experience vis-a-vis a candidate that has little?

A18: Intl experience is valued but it is only one piece of the puzzle. If u lack international, u have other qualities.

- **Q19:** What adcoms look for in a candidate before/after the interview? Do they review applicant holistically after the interview?

A19: Every school has different goals for the interview. Some check fit. Others clear up questions re app. File reviewed after.

- **Q20:** What's the best way for a recent grad with < 3 years work experience to demonstrate readiness for an MBA?

A20: Show MBA readiness thru work experience and progression, leadership, self-awareness, focused goals, strong letters of rec

- **Q21:** How do you pick the best school for you?

A21: Consider what's imp't to you, research schools to find good fit. <http://t.co/wZ74eThVZN>

- **Q22:** How many schools do you recommend someone apply to the first round? Btw, had a wonderful recent consultation w/ @BillChionis!

A22: Recommend 4-5 schools total and 2 or 3 round 1. Don't rush to submit, make sure you are ready. Glad you liked Bill

- **Q23:** Is it better to apply in Round 1 or Round 2? What are the advantages?

A23: adv to R1 and R2. Schools say it doesn't matter, many get in in both rounds. Don't game it - apply when ready



- **Q24:** How many schools should one apply to? What should be the ideal spread across rounds?

A24: Ideal 4-5 schools, 2-3 each round. Don't cram too many into one round. Don't apply to too many

- **Q25:** Is part-time MBA (or Spring admission MBA) typically less competitive than Full-time?

A25: PT can be less competitive depending on school and qualifications. Impossible for someone w wrong cred to do PT

- **Q26:** How do you rate Terry, UGA?

A26: Terry - solid program, good resources, esp popular with those staying local. All about what you want to gain

- **Q27:** How many Dream, Reach and Safe schools should one apply to?

A27: Have a balanced group - 2 reach, 2 Reach, 2 Safe, or similar variation, depends on your risk profile

- **Q28:** Is it necessary for a student based outside the US to travel and visit the schools?

A28: Never necessary to visit but great if you can. Helps to show interest and helps you research. Schools understand it's a big trip

- **Q29:** How Work Visas should impact international students on engaging to get an MBA in the U.S.?

A29: You can work with the school to get a student Visa

- **Q30:** Is it too tough to get a h1b visa? Many say it's tough for international students with MBA

A30: There are always ways to get through the red tape. Huge portion of top programs filled with int'l students.

- **Q31:** For an Indian applicant, what GMAT score should one target, how many points above school avg?

A31: You have to go for your highest possible GMAT score. and then after 1-2 tries, walk away and focus on other.

- **Q32:** I work in family bsns.No manager,previous job 3 yrs ago, no contact with clients. Who could I ask to recommend me?

A32: ask business partners, peers at work, director at extra-curric, include expl of choice of recommenders



- **Q33:** Do schools frown upon students who have taken GMAT multiple times? Or is Best score only seen?

A33: Schools factor in highest test score but do see all, so use judgement and move in if not improving

- **Q34:** Is it always necessary to study in a top b school to get a job

A34: Not nec to go to top school to get a job. Some companies only recruit at certain schools. call your target companies.

GMAT Club's MBA Resources

All MBA Rankings	http://bit.ly/1FaDIT3	Application Experiences of Applicants	http://bit.ly/1lecA6z
All MBA Deadlines	http://bit.ly/19RSTSX	MBA Applicant Blogs	http://bit.ly/1Hx5LJE
All School Stats	http://bit.ly/1MPOguZ	Current Student Blogs	http://bit.ly/1NPG4rD
Live Chats with B-School Adcoms	http://bit.ly/1NJ7v4w	GMAT Club Twitter Handle	http://bit.ly/1Nyn4gj
MBA Admission Consultant Reviews	http://bit.ly/1y6eLpt		
2015 MBA Applicants' Profiles	http://bit.ly/1DJKnBO		
For More Information Visit	http://gmatclub.com/forum/business-school-and-mba-115/		