



ILLINOIS MBA



Illinois MBA: Interview Process and Tips

November 5, 2013



Application, Interview, and Decision Process

1. After an application is submitted, we check for materials (2-3 weeks to organize applications)
2. If application complete, forwarded for initial review. Reviewer makes recommendation (Initial review completed within 1 week).
3. Interview invitation emailed. (1-2 days after initial review)
4. Applicant accepts interview offer (Skype or on-campus) and schedules interview.
5. Interview held as scheduled (usually 1-3 weeks after invitation).
6. Interviewer makes recommendation (1 day)
7. Admissions Committee makes decision (1-2 weeks after interview)
8. Final Decision Released



THE INTERVIEW

1. Points of Evaluation
2. Types of Questions
3. Preparation Tips
4. Interview Tips





THE INTERVIEW

Points of Evaluation

- Communication/Interpersonal Skills
- Career and Personal Goals
- Self-Awareness
- Strength of Interest in Program
- Teamwork Ability
- Analytical Ability





THE INTERVIEW

Types of Questions

- Experience verification – “Please tell me about your current professional roles and responsibilities”
- Behavioral – “Tell me about a time when you successfully resolved a conflict with a co-worker”
- Motivation check – “Why do you want an MBA?”



THE INTERVIEW

Preparation Tips

- Think of examples of your personal accomplishments and teamwork experiences
- Make a list of your greatest strengths in comparison with others
- Re-read your personal statement
- If there are any weaknesses in your application, be prepared to address them
- Write out 2-3 questions that will yield insightful answers from interviewer



THE INTERVIEW

Preparation Tips (Cont.)

- If interviewing on campus
 - ✓ After receiving invitation e-mail, take a look at the campus interview dates and find one that works best for you. You can register online.
 - ✓ Request parking if you will be driving to campus.
 - ✓ Plan to arrive at least 15 minutes before interview.
- If interviewing via Skype, test your setup
 - ✓ Lighting
 - ✓ Background view
 - ✓ Webcam positioning
 - ✓ Background noise
 - ✓ Audio
- Be prepared for some small talk



THE INTERVIEW

Interview Tips

- Dress professionally.
- Greet interviewer with a smile.
- Make direct eye contact. (If conducting interview online, look into webcam.)



THE INTERVIEW

Interview Tips

- When speaking of skills, abilities, or qualifications, use examples.
- Communicate strong interest in program. Show you have researched our program.
- Prepare questions in advance. Ask insightful questions without sounding negative.



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Questions

For more information, please:

- Visit our website: www.mba.illinois.edu
- Contact our admissions team:
 - mba@illinois.edu
 - (217) 244-7602
- Visit us at the Business Instructional Facility
 - 515 E. Gregory Drive
Champaign, Illinois

Thank you for attending today's session!





Upcoming Events

- In-Person Events

- Campus Connect (Champaign)

- Saturday, December 7, starting at 10:00 a.m.
 - Network with current and other prospective MBA students.
 - Sit in on a mock lecture with a core MBA faculty member.
 - Learn about Business Career Services at Illinois.
 - RSVP at: http://go.illinois.edu/IMBA_CampusConnect

- Careers and Cabernet with MBA Dean Darcy Sementi (downtown Chicago)

- Tuesday, November 19, starting at 5:30 p.m.
 - Network with University of Illinois alumnae and the Dean of the Illinois MBA.
 - Wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres courtesy of WineKnow Productions
 - RSVP at: http://go.illinois.edu/MBA_CareersCabernets

- Online with Admissions

- Experiential Learning at Illinois

- November 13, 2013, at 6 p.m.: <http://illinois.edu/calendar/detail/3223/30072547>
 - November 14, 2013, at 9 a.m.: <http://illinois.edu/calendar/detail/3223/30072548>

- Go to our events page for further information:

- <http://www.mba.illinois.edu/admissions/events.aspx>



Online Presentation Recordings

- Application Tips: <https://sas.illuminate.com/p.jnlp?psid=2013-10-09.0726.M.783F200ED09046025E599FD50E9BDF.vcr&sid=407>
- Program Overview:
<https://sas.illuminate.com/site/external/jwsdetect/nativeplayback.jnlp?sid=407&psid=2013-09-24.0733.M.783F200ED09046025E599FD50E9BDF.vcr>
- Faculty Spotlight:
<https://sas.illuminate.com/site/external/jwsdetect/nativeplayback.jnlp?sid=407&psid=2012-11-30.0930.M.783F200ED09046025E599FD50E9BDF.vcr>
- Diversity on Campus:
<https://sas.illuminate.com/site/external/jwsdetect/nativeplayback.jnlp?sid=407&psid=2012-12-07.0843.M.783F200ED09046025E599FD50E9BDF.vcr>



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