



GMAT Club Chat with ISB Admissions

Mr. Rupesh Bisht (Associate Director – Admissions & Financial Aid)
Aug 4th, 2014



Web Resources:

- ISB Website: <http://www.isb.edu/>
- ISB Class of 2016 Discussion: [Calling all ISB Applicants - \(2015 Intake\) - Class of 2016](#)
- Schedule of all Admissions Team Chats: [Schedule of Live Q&A Sessions on GMATClub](#)

		Welcome to a GMAT Club chat with ISB Admissions
		Topic set by Narenn on Mon Aug 04 2014 19:48:14 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
20:27	ISBAdmissions	Hello everyone!
20:27	Narenn	ok, ISB Representative is here with us.
20:29	ISBAdmissions	Hi all
20:29	ISBAdmissions	I take care of international marketing for PGP and the YLP programme at ISB
20:29	ISBAdmissions	am also an alumni from the ISB class of 2009
20:30	ISBAdmissions	Admin are we ready to take questions
20:30	ISBAdmissions	Please ask your questions. one by one pls.
20:32	ankurgupta03	I have a work experience of 5 years in IT and I want to move into the consulting domain post my MBA. Can you please let me know the sort of companies which visit ISB
20:33	ISBAdmissions	@ankur: consulting is a big draw at ISB and all top consults recruit in large nos. at isb.
20:33	ankurgupta03	And do I stand a good chance to move away from IT?
20:34	stacy	ISB has 2 rounds of admission. Is it better to apply in the first round or second?
20:34	swati	Hello everyone. I am a civil engineer with nearly 3 years of work-ex . Can you please apprise me of consultancy companies that recruit the likes of me from ISB?
20:34	stacy	basically from a scholarship perspective
20:34	ISBAdmissions	at ISB roughly 75% students change either their function or industry, so it's very much doable
20:34	menon	Sir, I was going through the placement report...what % get placed abroad?
20:35	ISBAdmissions	@stacy: applying in r1 makes sense
20:35	ankurgupta03	can my prior experience in IT field prove as a hindrance in getting a job out of the IT field?
20:35	ISBAdmissions	if nothing significant is changing in your profile before nov 30
20:36	desark1s	what is the most important criteria to get selected in ISB??
20:36	ISBAdmissions	because all scholarships are available, all seats are available and you can plan your exit smoothly
20:36	Gnph	My question is, i currently work as Program management analyst in a fortune 100 company's Aerospace division. I plan to start my MBA by 2015. I will have 4 and half years of exp when ISB program start at in April 2016. How do i stand. I wanted to move into General management or Operations.
20:37	stacy	but if we feel we need to better prepared for the gmat.. and should take it later.. is it ok to apply in round 2?
20:37	ISBAdmissions	@swati: all top consults recruit at isb, visit our placement report for details
20:37	arjunagarwal88	i am a commerce grad... of 2008 pass out.. not from top notch commerce grad like srcc, etc... with an average 59.5% in graduation.. now completed 6yrs of work exp .. as a trader in financial markets and then for business development too. now i ran a startup for past 2yrs. startup wasnt that great as markets tumbled past year.. so will still it be given a fa
20:37	menon	what % of students are from outside India?
20:38	ankurgupta03	people lets slow down a little ... let Mr. Bisht answer a question first and then the next person can ask. Also type your question fully an then post it
20:38	ISBAdmissions	@ankur: lot of it professionals make shifts at isb,



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20:38	nyk	Will my M.Tech get extra credits during admission process? [I had seen a few foreign univ give a couple of points for masters degree holders]
20:39	gmatbugsm84	2. I was going through the list of recruiters at ISB. I am specifically interested in the roles that companies like General Electric, Ingersoll Rand or other mechanical engineering companies recruit for?
20:39	ISBAdmissions	it is not a hindrance but the onus lies on the student to leverage the facilities available at ISB to make the shift
20:39	Narenn	Moderator Note :- Please do not ask for the profile review questions. It is impossible to do evaluation of your profile and providing feedback in the LIVE session
20:40	ankurgupta03	All right Sir ...
20:40	nickoftime	has it started ???
20:40	ISBAdmissions	nyk: No extra credits for a qual, but having said that it adds value to the app if you can tie it with your goals and aspirations
20:40	menon	can we do profile review?
20:41	raj44	Sir, regarding student exchange program, approximately how many students go to partner schools each year and for how long? When does this program take place? And how challenging it is to get into schools like Tuck, NUS etc
20:41	ISBAdmissions	no indiv profile review
20:42	desark1s	what is the most important criteria to get selected in ISB Sir??
20:42	ISBAdmissions	every year roughly 60 students go on international exchange though 110 seats are available
20:43	JA	Is it necessary to have received the official score card from GMAC before applying to ISB
20:43	ISBAdmissions	exchange is from 4 to 8 weeks , starts after term 4. it all depends on your willingness since you have to bid for exchanges using your points which are also used for choosing electives
20:44	raj44	Alright. Thank you Sir!
20:44	ISBAdmissions	evaluation at isb is done in 3 buckets: 1.acads including gmat 2. leadership quotient 3. personal attributes
20:44	nickoftime	Sir , with a cgpa of 6.4 from a non IIT or not , what else can I do to get a call ? Or is the game over for me now ?
20:45	snehan	I'm sorry I'm joining late. I had a query regarding the evaluation procedure for YLP stage2. Do the recommenders need to send the hard copy of the recommendation by post ?
20:45	arjunagarwal88	@ isb admissions... how is a small startup ventured viewed by isb adcoms?
20:45	ISBAdmissions	u can apply to isb with test centre score, test taken before or on the app deadline. the official score can reach us later
20:46	gmatbugsm84	I was going through the list of recruiters at ISB. Can you talk a little bit about the roles that companies like General Electric, Ingersoll Rand or other mechanical engineering/ core engineering companies recruit for?
20:46	snehan	this is regarding the LOR submitted by the evaluators. My evaluator asked if he needs to send in a hard copy of the recommendation by post
20:47	ISBAdmissions	nick pls refer to evaluation at isb, it is very holistic and does not hinge on any one factor : we have many non IITians and non engineers in the class as well
20:47	desark1s	Sir, can you please elaborate on the third bucket-personal attributes
20:47	ankurgupta03	@snehan ... you can take the evaluations, seal them in the envelope, make them sign over it and then you yourself can post it if you are going for offline evaluation
20:48	ISBAdmissions	snehan: all reccos are online
20:48	nickoftime	Looking for a future in supply chain sector. Could you guide if it would be better to go for MBA in general management or operations management ?
20:48	ankurgupta03	@snehan, make your evaluators sign across the flap



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20:49	snehan	I have opted for the online reco. But my evaluator has received an email that talks about hard copy as well. Since I am not aware of what format the evaluators have been given I was unsure what to tell my evaluator
20:49	ISBAdmissions	arjun: positively , it is not just about success or failure but also the learnings u have derived from the startup
20:49	snehan	ok sir. Thank you! So if I have opted for online evaluators, they don't need to send anything by post
20:50	arjunagarwal88	how much ... to be at safer side... for a non engineer.. should score on gmat... just an idea.. wont take it as a rock written... but will help me to pace up..
20:50	menon	What percent of students receive merit-based scholarships? How much is offered for the largest merit scholarship? What is the average merit-aid given?
20:50	ISBAdmissions	for specific roles at engg companies pls write to us at pgp@isb.edu , you may also request to be connected to an alum/student from a particular industry
20:50	swati	what is the possibility of placements outside India? Could you please suggest the criteria for getting scholarships.
20:51	ISBAdmissions	slow down a bit guys let me answer pending first
20:52	ISBAdmissions	snehan the recco is send online, pls write to ylp@isb.edu
20:52	mib_7hkb20	Sir, can a high school teacher serve as an evaluator for YLP ?
20:53	ISBAdmissions	desark: the personal attributes bucket consists of your communication abilities, extra curriculars, other interests etc
20:53	snehan	alright! Thank you very much for the clarification!
20:54	ISBAdmissions	nick u can specialise in operations management at isb, better still take a dual specializaion at isb
20:55	desark1s	thank you sir...i have my gmat scheduled next week....is there still enough time left to go through all the formalities and apply before the last date of R1?
20:56	nickoftime	Sir , I had a job at a town with no NGOs . I've recently shifted to Delhi and joined an NGO. Would the lack of NGO experience affect my chances ?
20:56	mib_9ari9g	Hello. Candidates with more than 8 years of work experience constitute approx. how much % of accepted students in recent years?
20:56	ISBAdmissions	arjun; gmat is one of the criterion and is part of the academic bucket, we dont have a cutoff for gmat, the range for last class was 600-780, median being 710.The 80% range is 670- 740
20:57	Narenn	@ mib_9ari9g :- Please let ISB Adcom finish the pending questions first
20:57	ankurgupta03	@nickoftime ... Let me answer that. I believe ISB o not weigh your application base on the number of years of your NGO experience. It's the learning that counts
20:58	ISBAdmissions	menon 10% receive merit and 5% means schol. Schols are either 5 lac or 10 lac. 15% of the class receives schols
20:58	nickoftime	Thanks Ankur !!!
20:58	indu91	hello, when should we start with the application process at the earliest?
20:58	ketangulati	Hi, I have a quick question - not sure if this fits in the context... do we have opportunities on funding education - are there full scholarshps for the incoming class?
20:59	ketangulati	I am sorry just joined the chat, so not sure if this question is redundant
20:59	gmatbugsm84	@Indu91 . The portal is open. You can start now if you wish
20:59	ankurgupta03	@indu91 ... whenever you feel you are fully prepare to write down your essays an one with the gmat
21:00	ISBAdmissions	swati- opportunities outside india are available, 63 offers were made last year from 44 companies from 6 countries
21:00	farhanc85	Are there pending questions, can i ask one?
21:00	ankurgupta03	@ketangulati ... 10% receive merit and 5% means schol. Schols are either 5 lac or 10 lac. 15% of the class receives schols
21:01	ISBAdmissions	scholarships are merit n means based, for means you need to write an essay and



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		annual family income<10 lac
21:01	ISBAdmissions	merit scholarship is automatic, if you are in the adcom overall evaluation list
21:01	indu91	thank you for the reply, will 20 days be sufficient for the entire process?
21:02	arjunagarwal88	what is the relevance.. i mean weightage for graduation score.. and class 10 and class 12 scores... ?
21:02	ketangulati	thanks @ISBAdmissions @ankurgupta03 for your responses!!!
21:02	ankurgupta03	@indu91 .. it totally depends on you ... if you think you are prepared, then go for it, else apply in the next Round
21:02	ISBAdmissions	recco from high school is way back in the past so not recommended, but technically he can be an evaluator
21:03	ketangulati	even I want to understand the relevance of secondary and high school scores in PGP admissions at ISB
21:03	gmatbugsme84	@indu91 - do have a look at the admissions portal. You will surely understand, how long it will take you.
21:03	ISBAdmissions	desark u should start writing the app, and plug in gmat score when u take it. don't wait to get the score to write the app
21:03	arjunagarwal88	@ isb adcom... arjunagarwal88 and @ketangulati... we both share common question
21:03	MISK	Sir, I had to discontinue my education after high school for some reasons, which is why I have a 5 year gap between my 12th and Bachelor's degree. Will that affect my selection prospects?
21:04	Ani	You mentioned something about specialization and dual specialization. This is just through the electives right?
21:04	ankurgupta03	@Ani .. yes
21:04	ISBAdmissions	NGO exp is not mandatory, if you have been doing it as part of life mention it else do not try to fabricate it
21:05	ISBAdmissions	roughly 10% students with >8 years exp
21:06	snehan	roughly how many admits per year through YLP?
21:06	arjunagarwal88	@all... glad to see people are so positive and confident that they aren't worried about admissions.. they are just worried about post admission deals... keep it up...
21:07	indu91	@gmatbugsme84 yes sure, thank you
21:07	ChallengeAnything	What part of placements consists of PE / VC roles? Do we need to have prior work experience to join PE / VC ??
21:07	ISBAdmissions	full tuition waivers are under consideration, we shall let you know soon, otherwise collateral free loans are available
21:07	nickovertime	I may be late to apply in round 1. Should I risk applying in round 2, which I've heard reduces your chances of admit or wait for next year's round 2 ? Is the round 2 danger True or a Myth?
21:09	ISBAdmissions	all acads have some weight age alongwith gmat in the acad bucket
21:09	ankurgupta03	@nickovertime ... whenever you feel you are fully prepared to apply, then apply do not risk your chances with a not so strong application just for the sake of applying in R1
21:09	gmatbugsme84	@nickovertime - please apply when YOU are comfortable. Even if R1 is "safer" to apply, would you want to risk your chances with not sending in your best app vs. R2 where you give your best effort?
21:09	farhanc85	Thanks, @ Rishab, currently the ISB batch has 9 International students. Although ISB has lot of opportunities for multi-cultural learning through various exchange program. The dip in international students affects the overall diversity. ISB being the only true global school, how does the school plan to attract more talent from abroad in coming years?
21:10	farhanc85	*true global school in India
21:10	prabhakarsharma	hi , sorry i have joined late. i have question regarding work experience. Does a person with higher work exp like 7-8 yrs has lesser chance of getting into ISB



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21:10	ISBAdmissions	ketan we look at acad score beyond and including class XII, gives us some sense of the analytical prowess of an individual
21:10	Vijayeta	I am from IT background with 3 years of experience,80% academic score throughout the career and a gmat score of above 680?Do I stand any chance.
21:10	ankurgupta03	@prabhakarsharma .. roughly 10% students with >8 years exp
21:10	Narenn	Moderator Note:- @Vijayeta. No Profile review questions, please
21:11	ketangulati	@ISBAdmissions - thanks and understood, my question was a little specific; like many elite schools in the country do we have eligibilitites and minimum required marks to be considered
21:11	ketangulati	sometimes one factor comes along very strong to cover the other
21:11	ISBAdmissions	MISK you can explain the gap in the app, we are not biased against gaps so long as you can justify em
21:12	souvik101990	ISBAdmissions How plausible is the industry shift (if something drastic) from Non profit (education) to Consulting?
21:12	arjunagarwal88	@ isb adcom... @ ketangulati. could you again please explain mean by looking acad score beyond? i am again trying to ask you for mentioning class 10/class 12 and graduation scores... ?
21:12	ISBAdmissions	snehan 10% of class is thru ylp students who are merged homogeneously
21:14	MISK	Thank you so much for your response!
21:14	ISBAdmissions	Lot of roles are available in startups and VC funded companies, pls read about startup first on our website. Lot of alumni transition to PE roles later after graduation, getting directly into PE might be a tough deal
21:14	prabhakarsharma	@ISBAdmissions - does ISB differentiates between applicants who take gmat and apply in the same year and those who have a gap b/w gmat and applying for ISB
21:15	ISBAdmissions	apply to isb when u are best ready, the rigor of selection remains same for both rounds. Put your best foot forward
21:16	gmatbugsme84	Is it Ok to mention specific student names and refer to discussions with them in our essays and interview (If we get there 😊)?
21:16	nickovertime	Do I need to apply with AWA and IR scores ? How much do these scores increase or decrease my chance of admission ?
21:17	farhanc85	apologies for confusion with the name @Rupesh
21:18	ISBAdmissions	farhan its true we have 9 internationals in class but we have around 20% of class which has international exposure, nri,pio, oci or plain offshore experience folks. We actively engage international audience and it remains a priority for us to get more intl flavor to the class
21:19	manu220194	Do you also consider candidates with one year of experience?
21:19	ISBAdmissions	ketan we dont have any cutoffs, the evaluation is holistic without hinging on one factor heavily
21:20	ISBAdmissions	souvik we have plenty of examples of such shifts, in fact there are consulting firms who value education experience
21:20	farhanc85	@rupesh thanks for the information on 20%class having international exposure.



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21:20	ketangulati	thnxs for the info!
21:21	ISBAdmissions	arjun we dont look at class X scores
21:21	arjunagarwal88	@isb admissions.. kindly tell me how the scores of graduation for commerce grads is compared to engineers gpa .. as in commerece colleges.. scoring above 65%is tough
21:22	ISBAdmissions	prabhakar: NO , we accept all valid scores
21:22	ansh04	Hello Mr. Bisht - considering that around 90% students in a typical batch in ISB have experience less than 8 years, what would you suggest to a candidate who has more than 9 years of professional experience regarding applying to ISB and future prospects after graduating?
21:22	ISBAdmissions	whats the point dropping names, focus on content instead
21:23	ISBAdmissions	we will not look at IR scores this year, awa has some weightage
21:23	gmatbugsme84	Thanks. That will surely save space for other content!
21:23	ankurgupta03	@nickoftime ... IR is a recent inclusion in the GMAT and the people who have take the test 5 years back may not have the IR scores, hence the IR scores are not considered
21:23	vaibhavbansaliitd	Could you please let us know how important are the extra-curricular activities to make a strong candidature?
21:24	ISBAdmissions	manu u can apply under early entry option
21:25	ISBAdmissions	arjun we have college and stream categorization, we understand the nuances of arts Vs engg scores
21:25	ankurgupta03	@vaibhavbansaliitd ... you need to focus in the lessons from the activities to make a strong candidature .. the lessons should be embedded in you ... participating alone and not learning anything ill not help
21:25	arjunagarwal88	@ isb adcom.. thanks again
21:26	farhanc85	Regarding campus synergy, Is it possible to take courses from other campus, since the faculty is divided between campuses, are there provision of VC's with a specific number of students/depends on class size at that time?
21:27	ISBAdmissions	Ansh: have absolute clarity on goals post isb and what gaps will pgp fill for you. Do ur research , visit isb and talk to career advancement services> Opportunities are available but you have to be in the driving seat
21:27	manu220194	I am from an engg. background and one of the top rankers. My college scores are calibrated in terms of %age and not CGPA(Unlike IITs). For example, the topper scores about 80% and NOT MORE, whereas that amounts to 10 CGPA in the IIT System. Do you have a procedure to normalize this disparity?



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21:27	arjunagarwal88	after looking at so many isb alumns.. its very obvious.. engineers sit at 75-80% seats there.. so what we can infer... non engineers denied or non engineers apply very less?
21:28	nickoftime	I have a promotion due by the end of October. That may provide a better picture of my career growth .I may have to submit my essays before that. Should I mention that I'll be promoted soon on my essays ? Will the adcom take this in a negative or doubtful way ?
21:28	ISBAdmissions	Extracurriculars are important but stay true, absense of any particular attribute does not lead to rejection. U could compensate by strong performance in other areas
21:29	mib_exobe1	i am having 15 years of IT consulting experience across various domain + PMP + MBA symbiosis
21:29	gmatsbyme84	Is it OK if we mention 2 possible career paths (both justified by experience and opportunities available at ISB) in the essays? Or is it better to talk about single career goal? One role is consulting in present industry and the second is career acceleration in the same industry.
21:29	ankurgupta03	@nickoftime .. you can apply in R2 and incude your ae responsibilities in the essays ...
21:30	ISBAdmissions	farhan inter campus exchange is available, we have good virtual connectivity as well
21:30	mib_exobe1	expecting GMAT @710
21:31	ankurgupta03	@mib_exobe1 no profile evaluations and profile relate quetions
21:31	ISBAdmissions	Guess we are out of time
21:31	gmatsbyme84	@mib_exobe1 do look at the PGPMAX!
21:31	arjunagarwal88	one more guys
21:32	ISBAdmissions	Pls write to pgp@isb.edu or intladmissions@isb.edu
21:32	arjunagarwal88	after looking at so many isb alumns.. its very obvious.. engineers sit at 75-80% seats there.. so what we can infer... non engineers denied or non engineers apply very less?
21:32	vaibhavbansaliitd	Thanks a lot. It helped.
21:32	farhanc85	Thanks a lot @Isbadmissions
21:32	ISBAdmissions	It was a pleasure interacting with all of you
21:32	ISBAdmissions	Hope you found value in the conversation and the time was well spent. thanks
21:32	gmatsbyme84	Thanks a lot for your time @ISBAdmissions
21:32	ankurgupta03	Thanks a lot Mr. Rupesh
21:32	Narenn	Thank you everyone for participating in the chat.



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21:32	Narenn	I would also like to thank Mr. Rupesh Bisht – ISB Representative – on behalf of GMATClub community for sparing time with us. Hope you had a wonderful session, Sir.
21:32	Narenn	We shall post transcript of this chat in the ISB discussion thread. If for any reason you want us to exclude your username from the saved transcript, please let me know.
21:33	Narenn	We have many more such events coming in next few months. Please take a look at following thread for complete schedule of the events.
21:33	Narenn	http://gmatclub.com/forum/announcement-live-q-a-sessions-with-school-adcoms-174827.html
21:33	Narenn	ISB Admissions team will remain available to answer your questions on GMATClub. Please post your questions to ISB admissions in this thread. http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-isb-admissions-172589.html
21:33	ankurgupta03	@all look out for the chat transcript at the ISB thread
21:33	ankurgupta03	thanks a lot everyone
21:33	ISBAdmissions	Admin, can I address unanswered questions offline ?
21:33	Narenn	Sure Sir. You can visit following thread to answer offline questions http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-isb-admissions-172589.html
21:33	farhanc85	Thanks ISB and Gmatclub 😊 cheers
21:33	ankurgupta03	That would be a very kind gesture sir
21:33	arjunagarwal88	where can we post offline questions?
21:34	ankurgupta03	@arjunagarwal88 here .. http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-isb-admissions-172589.html
21:36	ankurgupta03	Thanks a lot everyone for participation. Good luck and happy essay writing 😊