

Web Resources:

- Cambridge Website: <http://www.jbs.cam.ac.uk/home/>
- Cambridge Class of 2016 Discussion: [Calling all Cambridge\(Judge\) Applicants \(2015 Intake\) Class of 2016](#)
- Schedule of all Admissions Team Chats: [Schedule of Live Q&A Sessions on GMATClub](#)

08:00	bb_gmatclub	It is 8 AM PST - thank you all for joining, and esp. a big welcome and thank you to the Cambridge team! This chat is open now.
08:01	bb_gmatclub	Dear visitors, please post the questions you may have.
08:00	Cambridge	Hello everyone, and greetings from Cambridge, UK
08:02	krelia87	Thank you, and hello everyone
08:02	Cambridge	Yes, please do post your questions: here today to answer any queries that you may have with regards to our full-time one-year MBA degree programme
08:02	krelia87	To kick off, I suppose, I understand that this year's application only needs the one reference from a supervisor. What was the reason for dropping the peer reference from the application?
08:03	bb_gmatclub	Also, Dear Cambridge Admissions member, would you please let us know your role and name if that's OK?
08:03	bb_gmatclub	Perhaps do a mini-introduction?
08:03	Cambridge	We did not feel that we were getting that much value from the peer reference, so the decision was taken to focus on the broader perspectives offered by the supervisor referee. The peer reference was designed to assess team 'fit', but this can be done during the interview, particularly if you attend on campus.
08:04	mib_jf6qdo	Does your team read applications as and when they come in, or only after the round closes?
08:04	Cambridge	The changes are blogged about here: http://www.thecambridgembadmissions.com/2014/08/01/what-we-have-done-with-what-i-have-learned-at-gmac-2014-conference/
08:04	Cambridge	My name is James Barker, and I am a member of the admissions team and admissions committee
08:05	generalist	Hi James. I would like to know more about the prospects of a non-EU MBA candidate in terms of employment opportunities in UK and EU?
08:05	Cambridge	mib: the team reads applications after each deadline
08:05	mib_9izspfi	Is there a difference in applying in Round 1 vs. Round 2 vs. Round 3?
08:06	Cambridge	generalist: there is still the option to work in the UK post-MBA. Still over 50% of our students take that route. However, all candidates need to enter into MBA programmes with an open mind and a flexible approach. You should also have researched the kinds of roles you may wish to aim for, and assess your profile suitability for those roles
08:07	Cambridge	mib: There is no reduction in 'chances' between our five admissions rounds. However, early applications provide candidates with greater flexibility for College placement and financing, and of course more time to fully prepare for MBA study
08:07	krelia87	How integrated is Judge with greater Cambridge University? Are there opportunities to take academic courses with other Cambridge colleges?
08:08	Cambridge	krelia: We are a full department of Cambridge University, and our students are full members of the University and one of its 31 constituent Colleges. Technically you can take courses in other departments, but as it is intensive one year programme this may not be feasible. If you have an interest in other disciplines then of course Cambridge has an enviable range of research seminars and guest speaker series that you can attend on a more informal basis
08:10	adityavemuri	How are the internship opportunities and Percentage of PPO?
08:10	krelia87	And building off of aditya's question, I understand that it's self-sourced, but how much support is provided via Career Services in getting the internship? Are there any firms that regularly take Judge interns?
08:10	Cambridge	Aditya: internships do not form an integral part of one-year MBA degrees generally. At Camb you could source one and do this as your summer activity
08:11	generalist	Do you accept candidates who already have an MBA?

08:11	mib_jf6qdo	The outcome for Cambridge Round 1 final decisions is around early Nov. If so will the admissions committee allow candidates to also await outcome of any Round 1 American applications (mid-December) so they can make an informed choice + compare financial packages etc.
08:11	Cambridge	krelia: the internships do not tend to follow any particular pattern, but of course you have many opportunities to network with companies, entrepreneurs and of course alumni throughout the year to source these.
08:12	Andrew	Hello James. Could you please comment on the reasons of rather low number of Judge Cambridge alumni at LinkedIn network?
08:12	Cambridge	generalist: you would need to justify why a second MBA is needed but it would not be impossible
08:12	Cambridge	mib: Yes, we can be flexible on outcomes. However, a US MBA would usually be quite a different proposition so we would hope that you would have a good understanding about these nuances prior to applying
08:13	Cambridge	Andrew: I am unsure which LinkedIn network you refer to, but there are many active Cambridge MBAs on LinkedIn generally.
20:43	Narenn	Moderator Note :- Please give sufficient time to Cambridge representative to answer pending questions first.
20:44	jcamargo1985	Is it mandatory to use the CV template in the on line application?
20:45	Cambridge	jca - no, not mandatory but it is advised to follow this preferred format.
20:46	yaro	I come from an under-developed country and my extracurricular are not fancy and structured like American/European applicants. How does Cambridge admissions compare and view my extracurricular?
20:46	adityavemuri	With an IT background and no prior consultancy experience how well will Cambridge mba with 1 year support. Further how are the consultancy jobs post mba
20:46	Cambridge	yaro - this forms a marginal element of our application review. Primarily we would look at professional and academic achievements.
20:47	Cambridge	Aditya - such a switch would be difficult regardless of School, without leveraging your technical expertise. Approx 1/5 of our class secure consulting jobs
20:49	mib_jf6qdo	If someone applies in Round 1 - approx by what date will they know whether they have an interview or not?
20:50	Cambridge	mib - outcomes tend to be within 2/3 weeks of the application deadline
20:51	prayritgates	Every detail is mentioned on the website of college you are applying, for further details, do not hesitate to email your aspired college.
20:51		*** eshan429 is now known as Eshan
20:51	adityavemuri	how are job opportunities in technology field
20:52	adityavemuri	and average pay in that sector
20:52	Cambridge	Aditya - pretty good. We have strong outcomes generally in industry. We have had recent hires in Google, IBM etc
20:53	Cambridge	Aditya - salary levels are detailed on our careers report online.
20:53	Wouldbecrazy2014	Re-applicant this year. Dilemma here is how to change/modify my essays that i wrote last year. Coz my short term/long terms goals will be same. Also about my spectacular failure as well. Cambridge application doesn't have an optional essay. So how to proceed forward?
20:54	Cambridge	Wouldbe - my honest advice would be to be hesitant about reapplying without a significant change to your profile. However, if you DO decide that you can better present yourself to us this year, then there is the additional info section which you could utilise
20:54	mib_jf6qdo	If someone is admitted - how does a college get allocated? Will colleges be judging the individual MBA application or is it more a matter of each college having a quota?
20:55	Cambridge	mib - you can express a preference and we then submit candidates for membership. The Colleges will usually have a quota and your admissions rep will advise on availability and your preferences at that point in time
20:55	mib_jf6qdo	Sorry for all the questions. Thanks for being so accommodating.
20:56	Cambridge	mib - questions is precisely what I am here for today 😊
20:56	krelia87	Do MBA students have a lot of interaction with the other MPhil or PhD students at Judge?

20:57	Eshan	I scored really well in high school but had a low GPA (2.2) in my undergrad. I have been a well above average performer in my career of 2.5 years with a couple of promotions and numerous awards. I have a GMAT score of 740. How much of a disadvantage will my GPA put me at in front of the AdCom?
20:57	Cambridge	krelia - mixed I would say. There are opportunities to do this in the College sphere and with those from other disciplines too of course. Some courses and facilities are shared with the MFin students
20:58	Cambridge	Eshan - your GMAT would start to compensate for that, but we are looking for academic rigour here at Cambridge. This said if you feel other aspects of the application are strong then by all means apply. We can probe academics further at interview if necessary or desirable
20:59	generalist	With a 3+ year Management Consulting Experience and a 5 year entrepreneurship experience, can a candidate hope to find better management consulting avenues (such as BCG, Bain, McKinsey, etc) through Judge Cambridge?
20:59	aditya	how is GPA calculated.. I have a 6.2/10 GPA how is that converted. What is the criterion of GPA.. minimum and average
21:00		*** aditya is now known as Guest50492
21:00	Eshan	Could you please tell me what other things can I concentrate on to counter my low GPA?
21:00	Cambridge	generalist - there is no reason why not, if your background plus an MBA equips you with the skills that those firms may want. You should research this ahead of time to understand what they are looking for. We have relationships with those firms
21:01	Cambridge	Aditya - you can report in that format, and you will also be asked to provide your detailed transcript. We can then make a comparison
21:01	Cambridge	Eshan - the GMAT is the other evidence of academic ability that you will be able to present to us
21:01	krelia87	Do you know the general breakdown of summer activities? Which of the selections (internships, dissertation, IP, courses, etc) are most popular with students?
21:02	Eshan	Thanks a lot for the answers
21:02	Cambridge	krelia - I don't have that to hand, but it would be a broad spread depending on individual circumstance. Of course you have all year to reflect on how you may wish to best use your summer time
21:02	mib_jf6qdo	Typically over the core course, how many written exams does a candidate take, and when are these taken?
21:03	Cambridge	mib - There are relatively few (4/5) actual examinations during the year. These take place in early January and after the Easter vacation
21:04	generalist	Thanks for the answer James. Could you please elaborate a bit on scholarship opportunities in Judge? Are there any full fee scholarships/fellowships offered?
21:05	Cambridge	generalist - no full fees. Other schools based on GMAT and academic background (10-15kGBP). MBA bursaries awarded on merit to a decent number of admits - GBP5k-10k range.
21:08	generalist	Does Judge release an elaborate employment report, in line with that of other business schools in UK/EU/US?
21:08	Wouldbecrazy2014	So, precisely my application for this year will be compared from last year to see the changes in my profile. But my future aspirations/goals, the job responsibilities will be the same. I applied in Round 4. I got a promotion recently that i always wanted. But i believe 4 months would be difficult to show significant improvement. So i guess my application @ C
21:09	Guest50492	Does the college provide any accommodation to the students, specifically to families.
21:09	Cambridge	generalist - the data that we present is on our website. As we have such diverse outcomes for our students and operate on a personalised and individual basis, the data becomes too granular.
21:10	Cambridge	Guest50492 - there is limited College accommodation for families. This would be factored in to your discussions with your admissions representative when considering College option
21:11	Andrew	Thank you for all the answers! Regarding LinkedIn question I was talking about its overall alumni directory https://www.linkedin.com/edu/alumni?id=42311 JBS has less than 300 alumni whereas other top business schools 5k+
21:11	mib_jf6qdo	If offered an interview, what would be best advice on how to prepare?
21:11	Andrew	Also, will the site expansion project starting in 2015 have any effect on studies of 2015/2016 class?

21:14	Cambridge	Andrew - we reorganised many of the disparate LinkedIn groups, so this could be why. Also we have our own internal directory for student and alumni details
21:14	Cambridge	mib - just be familiar with your aims and aspirations. Interviews at Cambridge are academic - so also the faculty member will be looking for your intellectual capacity and 'teachability'
21:15	Cambridge	Andrew - there is the possibility that some courses may be taught off-site, but there is a comprehensive plan in place to minimise disruption to the life of the School
21:16	rodroh	Hello James! Quick question; Would you encourage to cold call alumni and current students to get their opinion on certain aspects relevant of the program such as academic life, lectures and assignments?
21:17	Cambridge	rodroh - this is not something I would explicitly encourage. Why not check out our blogs, social media feeds, YouTube videos instead? Then later during our process we offer ample opportunities to be connected with relevant alumni
21:18	krelia	I'll be at the QS MBA Tour Fair in NY in September. Will any alumni be available to talk about their Judge experience? What else will be available at the fair?
21:19	Narenn	Note : we will continue for next ten minutes only
21:19	Narenn	If anybody has any pending questions please post them early
21:19	rodroh	That sounds like a good option. Thanks.
21:19	Cambridge	krelia - I will be endeavouring to have alumni support with me at that event. Usually not a problem. Otherwise these fairs provide a great opportunities to meet with school reps and get a flavour of what they have to offer
21:20	Guest50492	Is there any information session in India?
21:21	Andrew	Thanks a lot for the answers! Another question is do you intend to interview more candidates this year due to the lack of early "team fit" filter of peer reference?
21:21	Cambridge	Guest50492 - nothing planned in India at this point in time
21:22	sab7a	Is there anything specific the Adcom is looking for in the essay question?
21:22	Cambridge	Andrew - it's a possibility, but then if you have been successful in your career in a good firm then the likelihood of 'team fit' is reasonably high, one would hope 😊 We will make a decision based on the number of apps received, as always
21:23	Cambridge	sab7a - essays provide an opportunity to 'colour' your application with your personality and experiences. So write well and show a good sense of self-reflection and thought about this MBA application process
21:24	execnitinsharma	I am from India and will be applying in round 2 (24 Oct 2014)...do you conduct interviews in India?
21:25	Cambridge	@exec- we may conduct interviews in India if faculty are traveling there. We do prefer people to come to campus where possible to get a full feel for the school. Plus you get to meet other potential batch mates. Failing this, we can arrange a telephonic interview
21:25	rodroh	Regarding recommendation letters: I am unable to get a letter from my direct line manager and because of how the company is structured I don't think I could ask a letter from another person would as useful. What's the stance of the Adcom on Recommendation letters written by Peers? If unable to do so, would a letter by a customer suffice the requirement?
21:26	Cambridge	rodroh - would a former direct line manager be possible? It needs to be someone who can comment on your achievements to date and your potential for success in the future
21:27	execnitinsharma	ok...but does the fact that a person cannot travel to the school for interview and is having his interview over telephone mar his chances of selection?
21:27	Cambridge	exec - no, your chances will not be affected. But you will have to work harder to come to conclusions on any offers that you may receive! Your admissions advisor can also help with this however
21:28	Andrew	Out of curiosity: are pets allowed when living at college properties? 😊
21:28	mib_fat72p	can you please guide me the approx work exp one should have to be on safer side? also.. how an entrepreneurship is viewed by Cambridge... though it wasn't successful
21:29	sab7a	😊@Andrew
21:29	Cambridge	Andrew - highly unlikely
21:30	Cambridge	mib - well the class average w/exp is 6-7 years so that should be your guide. Nothing wrong with

		failed an unsuccessful venture - but make sure you tell us what you learnt from it, and maybe even how an MBA would equip you differently in the future
21:32	execnitinsharma	I was reading the guidelines on your website and found out that you prefer a balanced GMAT score...I have a GMAT of 690 (Q49, V34 and AWA 5.5) and a work experience of 9 years....thoughts? or I need to increase my GMAT
21:32	Cambridge	exec - I see no problem with this one individual component of your application
21:32	rodroh	@Cambridge: A former manager might be able to support me, however a lot of my career progression has happened throughout my current role (my last role was an entry pos. whereas now I have a manager role). So I feel his letter might not reflect my current progression (though he might be able to shed some light on my professional capabilities)
21:33	Cambridge	@rodroh - then this will be at your discretion, but as described that is what we are seeking from this recommendatio.
21:34	rodroh	Thank you! I'll take it into consideration.
21:35	execnitinsharma	is it mandatory to provide IELTS or TOEFL score....would you not consider my degree college transcripts stating that I completed my degree course in English? in addition to that I have my basic schooling from a very reputed Indian school where the medium was English
21:36	Cambridge	@exec - can apply without, but will be needed eventually for visa purposes. Also we would reserve the right to request if we felt necessary
21:36	sab7a	Narenn & James @Cambridge, thanks for organizing this. Good luck everyone
21:36	execnitinsharma	Are there any job opportunities along with my MBA at the school, so that I can fund my MBA simultaneously in the same year?
21:37	Narenn	Thanks Sab7a for participating in the session 😊
21:37	Cambridge	exec - no, you may not work during the degree programme
21:37	Narenn	Alright!!!
21:37	Narenn	Thank you everyone for participating in the chat.
21:37	Narenn	I would also like to thank Mr. James Barker – Cambridge Representative – on behalf of GMATClub community for sparing time with us. Hope you had a wonderful session, Sir.
21:37	Narenn	We shall post transcript of this chat in the Cambridge discussion thread tomorrow. If for any reason you want us to exclude your username from the saved transcript, please let me know.
21:37	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.
21:38	Narenn	http://gmatclub.com/forum/announcement-live-q-a-sessions-with-school-adcoms-174827.html
21:38	Narenn	Cambridge Admissions team will remain available to answer your questions on GMATClub. Please post your questions to Cambridge admissions in this thread.
21:38	Narenn	http://gmatclub.com/forum/ask-cambridge-judge-admissions-117002.html http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-judge-cambridge-applicants-2015-intake-class-of-175971.html
21:38	Cambridge	Thanks to the moderators and all participants. Don't forget to visit www.thecambridgembamba.com Follow on Twitter @CambridgeMBA and me, @JamesAdmissions. Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/CambridgeMBA
21:38	Guest50492	Thanks a lot James for clarifying all the doubts I had
21:38	rodroh	Thank you James
21:38	execnitinsharma	Thanks James
21:39	Cambridge	It's been a pleasure to answer all of these well-thought out questions. Goodbye everyone, and thanks again.
21:39	Narenn	@All Cambridge Applicants: We have opened a discussion thread for Class of 2016 applicants
21:39	krelan87	Thank you James
21:39	Narenn	feel free to share/discuss your app updates/queries/thought in the thread
21:40	Narenn	Thank you everyone again and have a nice day ahead
21:42	mib_fat72p	link for thread for open discussion for Cambridge class 2016?
21:44	Narenn	http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-judge-cambridge-applicants-2015-intake-class-of-175971.html