

Web Resources:

- INSEAD Website: <http://www.insead.edu/>
- INSEAD (Jan Intake) Class of December 2016 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/insead-january-2016-intake-class-of-december-189332.html>
- INSEAD (Sept 16 Intake) Class of July 2017 Discussion: <http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-insead-applicants-sept-2016-intake-class-of-july-200198.html>

	Narenn	Hello Everyone! Thanks you for joining for today's chat.
	Narenn	This is first live chat of this season. Last year we did some 22 live chats, most of these with B-School adcoms but none with Current students. So, it's good to see we are starting this season with a chat with Current students from INSEAD.
	Narenn	I welcome all participants as well as current students from INSEAD: Abhishek, Akkshay, and Monica. Thank you very much guys for taking time from your busy schedules and chatting with us.
21:37	Ergen	I would like to know your opinion on how easy or difficult it is to find a job in the USA after Insead? What opportunities Insead offers for graduates who want to work in the USA. I heard that Insead has partnership with Wharton. Do you how effective is this partnership?
21:39	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@Ergen, good question... Honestly, INSEAD is not the ideal school if you're non-American and want to settle in the US
21:39	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	And yes, there is a pretty good partnership between INSEAD and Wharton. You can access Wharton jobs through the exchange.
21:40	Mayank5353	@Abhishek How are placements in Singapore & France? What profiles generally get scholarships if any idea you have.
21:40	abhinay	Hey Monica, Akkshay, Abhishek. I am currently working in the Global Markets space with Merrill Lynch (equities specifically) but would like to switch industries to Consulting after my MBA. How important do you think is the internship opportunity that I'll get in the Jan intake if one wants to switch industries? Have people easily switched to consulting
21:41	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@abhinay Consulting is a very common track here at INSEAD and switching is not a problem at all, we have teachers, doctors, investment bankers who are joining McKinsey, Bain, BCG. However if YOU are not sure about doing consulting then I would recommend a summer internship, otherwise it's not a problem at all.
21:41	mib_bemztr	Hi, Did either of you or anyone you know do the Wharton exchange? Is it worth it given the bid points you need to use and its only a half semester at Wharton?
21:41	abhjtm	Thanks Abhishek... As a follow up to Ergen's question: What happens to international students who do not bag offers in the UK/Singapore (especially the ones who do not join finance or consulting)? As I understand jobs in mainland Europe are too difficult to crack into.
21:42	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@abhjtm that;s true, for most European countries you need to speak local language. And a majority of placements are in SE Asia and UK
21:42	mib_vrkq93	Hello Abhishek and Akshay! Thanks for taking time out to interact with future applicants. I am a final year engineering student, and my main concern is whether it is necessary to have a job experience before applying!

21:42	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@mib_vrkq93 yes its very important to have work experience - honestly you will benefit more if you do
21:43	Bikerdude	Hi Akkshay and Abhishek, how important does INSEAD consider entrepreneurial experience running your own business as compared to experience say in traditional sectors like banking?
21:43	mib_8t7pho	@Abhishek, Does INSEAD consider students without International Work Experience ? I am in social sector from past 2 years and with startups another 2 years but no international exposure...
21:44	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	mib_8t7: Yes, INSEAD does accept but it's strongly recommended to have some sort of international experience and at a min, a global outlook for your future career
21:44	Ergen	Announcing break for two minutes. Let INSEAD students answer remaining questions
21:44	luizfvsc	Any lawyer joining INSEAD?
21:45	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@luizfvsc: Yes, we have a few lawyers at INSEAD from many countries. Both Akkshay and I have lawyers in our classes
21:46	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@luizfvsc – Here's the link to my lawyer classmate at INSEAD and his intro video. http://www.admithour.com/mbas/sellers/OTA
21:46	mib_vrkq93	Will a 6 months internship count? as work experience.
21:47	Ergen	Guys, could you elaborate a little more why inseed is not an ideal place for international students who want to work in the USA?
21:47	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	Sure Ergen,
21:47	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	1. Competition from Top US Schools is fierce
21:48	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	2. It really depends if you have already worked in the US or have studied there or have any networks there
21:48	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	3. If you have absolutely no connection to the US before joining INSEAD I would not recommend pinning your hopes on a job in the US since you will be competing with other US applicants from INSEAD as well as US applicants from the Top US B-Schools
21:48	MBAdream	Hi...what according to you is fit for inseed ...as in what qualities is inseed looking for besides the obvious leadership experience
21:49	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Good question @MBAdream. I would say a few things: international exposure and/or future outlook, relatively high work experience and I'd say more maturity. Of course, this is in addition to the standard leadership +good GMAT
21:49	luizfvsc	Would you know if they (lawyers at INSEAD) would be willing to provide their contact information?
21:49	Yash	@Akkshay- I'm predominantly would be relying on Scholarships, having said that what would be the chances to acquire one?
21:50	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@Yash its hard to say since I don't know details about you, but most INSEAD students get loans or scholarships, there are quite a few you can apply to AFTER getting accepted to INSEAD
21:51	abhinay	I have been in Singapore for the past 7 years so honestly I would like a change of scenery if possible - In that regard how common have you found in your experience for non EU nationals

		to find a job in the EU?
21:51	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@abhinay: it's not rare for non-EUs to find roles in EU. Specially in UK and some in Germany
21:52	Gautam29	Guys what according to you is high work experience, could you kindly elaborate
21:52	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@Gautam29 5-7 years work exp is the median range
21:52	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	where as in the US its 2-3
21:53	MBAdream	Thanks Abhishek...one more query..what is good GMAT score for indian students..considering they normally score very high and hence the competition is fierce..
21:53	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	I would recommend 700+
21:54	mib_60tqba	Does INSEAD MBA suit for the development field with networks and leadership roles? I am from South East Asia and want to make changes in my country
21:54	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@mib_60: I'm assuming you mean social sector...
21:54	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	We do have a fairly good record of students going in this field.... and the club INDEVOR is quite active with many networking opportunities.
21:55	nehaagarwal02	Hey there.. quick question on the pro's - con's of a 1 year MBA vs a 2 year one. Many claim that one year is way too cramped and there is no internship opportunity. Is this a drawback?
21:55	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@neha you can still do an internship if you join the Jan-December batch at INSEAD, that's what Abhishek is doing and he will be starting his internship in 10 days, I on the other hand, will be finishing my course in 10 months flat, personally I prefer 1 year since you don't take off too much time from work, it's cheaper. I can also assure you that its probably the most amazing year of your life given that its a 1 year program
21:56	abhinay	One of the essay questions asks the applicant to provide a candid description of one's self - Who the applicant is as a person
21:56	abhinay	Can you share any thoughts around that question? Do we have to be totally personal in this one or still string it around some professional qualities?
21:57	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@Abhinay: I'd suggest maintain a good balance... and don't shy away from sharing personal beliefs... they need to see beyond your stats
21:57	arvindmba	Can u please stress more on international experience and how mandatory it is? Are there any students in your class with no International Exp??
21:58	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	It's not rare to find people with no international exp, but you'll need to stress your global outlook going forward...
21:58	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	INSEAD takes this international diversity more importantly than most other top schools
21:58	MBAdream	How does insead look at applicants with family business??
21:59	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@MBADream there are definitely lots from Family Businesses, there is a Family Business Centre - there are a couple of students who are from Billionaire families too, so all are most welcome 😊
21:59	TemporaryName	What's the volume of work/readings/prep like? Do you often find yourselves sacrificing study

		for clubs/interview prep/traveling? Do you consciously ever (always) think: "I'm just going to get the gist of this"?
21:59	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@Temporary Name: that's a great question... yes, it happens quite often... and in fact, that's a great skill to learn during MBA: how to priorities among various competing things
22:00	mib_bemztr	Hi, think you missed my question earlier. Did either of you or anyone you know do the Wharton exchange? Is it worth it given the bid points you need to use and its only a half semester at Wharton?
22:00	djdhiman	how would a 1.5 months onsite experience in China count? (good,bad,OK)
22:01	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@djdhiman - it depends on the quality of your experience and how you put that across, thats most important, lessons learned, key is to SHOW what you did, not just TELL them what you did
22:02	Narenn	@Abhishek, apart from INSEAD, you were also admitted to Wharton with decent scholarship. We would like to know what factors did you take into consideration before making this decision. What encouraged you to choose INSEAD over Wharton?
22:03	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@Narenn: Thanks for the question. For me, it was (a) 1 year (b) more diverse student body (c) placements in Asia and also, generally the INSEAD people I talked to were extremely helpful.
22:03	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	But I must caveat that Wharton is a fantastic school, but for me, personally, I preferred INSEAD. I'm happy with the choice 😊
22:03	nehaagarwal02	@Akkshay, Thanks. 😊 I'm sure.. I'm from a creative background and have worked in licensing in the last 4 years. (This included interacting with guys in the likes of a Dreamworks, Disney etc) I do want to pursue work opportunities in a similar field but probably in the US. Would a European MBA be a drawback. (I know a similar question was asked just before I.
22:04	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@Neha, if you want to live and work in the US, a US MBA would certainly be easier given the proximity to the companies, infact if you want to work for those specific companies only, then I would recommend studying in LA or California at least. However, you can still reach out to these same companies given INSEAD's brand name.
22:05	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@neha you can also do the Wharton exchange program for sure
22:05	Jignesh	I would like to ask, that I work for Crisil in standard and poor's ratings process , where our clients are from US will the experience help in INSEAD and how many years would fit be useful?
22:05	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@Jignesh: You should highlight the exposure to international colleagues and clients - what were your learnings and how you intend to use these skills at INSEAD
21:06	mib_60tqba	My score is 2.7, but I am trying hard on GMAT. Also, I have experiences in start-ups, organizing internationals events such as youth forum and work with Unicef
22:06	mib_60tqba	I realize that businesses schools competition is fierce and I am more for leadership roles in community. Hence, I wonder if the environment at INSEAD really fits me or not
22:07	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@mib_60tqba I'm not sure what it is you are looking for but we certainly have classmates from the international development field as well as several other leadership

		roles, could you be more specific?
22:07	mib_bemztr	What's was your best class at INSEAD?
22:08	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@mib_bemztr - mine was Negotiations - every single class we actually negotiated and it ranged from simple 1-1 to 3-3 to complex 5-1 negotiations
22:08	sahilverma	What is d scope for people like me with no international experience? Do I even stand a chance?
22:09	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@sahilverma: Yes , it's possible but as mentioned earlier, you need to demonstrate your motivation of future global career....
22:09	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour and even if you have no international exp, you should try to highlight any cultural experiences you have faced...
22:10	nehaagarwal02	@Akkshay. Thanks. Is your preference of a campus taken into consideration while submitting the form. Can you apply for a switch?
22:10	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@Neha – No, preference is not taken - you can change later if you really want to. Plus you can study on both anyway 😊
22:11	Gautam29	How easy is it to find jobs in Asia and South East Asia, given that even these regions require you to know the local language.... just like in Europe
22:11	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@Gautam29 much easier than Europe ! - especially singapore, Hong Kong, S.Korea even - Samsung hires a lot from INSEAD
22:12	Gautam29	great thanks
22:12	Bikerdude	Hi Akkshay and Abhishek, I've a nontraditional profile. I've 7 yrs. total experience in Advertising/Marketing handling clients like Jack Daniel's. 4 years in India and 3 years experience in Canada with startups and my own business. I hold dual Indian and Canadian citizenship. Do I stand a chance for Insead given my nontraditional profile?
22:12	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@Bikerdude: Jack Daniel.. wow... 😊
22:13	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	And you seem great for the typical INSEAD candidate. The class is full of people with dual citizenships
22:13	mib_hjk8vi	@sahilverma - 16J here.. I'd keep the expectation to be realistic.. I have only a handful(<10) of people out of 500 who do not have an international experience
22:13	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	guys before we take more Qs
22:14	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	I would like @ Abhishek and I to give you an idea of what our teams look like: Backgrounds & diversity of experience for y'all to get a true sense of INSEAD
22:14	Ergen	Announcing a 5 minute break. Everyone please cooperate.
22:14	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	My Team when i joined: Brazilian - Ex McKinsey & Pvt Equity, Irish girl - Actuarial & Insurance, French- Nuclear Engineering, Dutch - McKinsey and myself. We have doctors, lawyers, teachers, poets
22:15	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	a PHD in Latin
22:15	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	I had a team of 4: an Australian mining person, a Chinese IT guy, a French consultant, an myself - ex McKinsey and social secto

22:15	nehaagarwal02	Nuclear engg.. fancy.. so coming from a creative/design background I won't be much of a misfit then?
22:15	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	there are no misfits..
22:15	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	... and I truly mean that...
22:16	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	not at all ! Monica, who couldn't be here today worked at Edelman I'm sure you know them! she wrote speeches for Dell CEO etc. & LinkedIn etc
22:16	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	she was in PR
22:16	abhinay	I recently met an INSEAD alumni who had majored in Fisheries prior to his MBA 😊
22:16	mib_bemztr	Why is a nuclear engineer doing an MBA? 🤔
22:17	abhinay	Some universities have industry treks, consultancy treks, entrepreneurship treks etc where you engage with companies from those sectors. Does INSEAD have anything similar?
22:17	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Yes Abhinav.. we have all such treks for IB, entrepreneurship
22:17	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	and INSEAD is a favourite of consulting firms. McKinsey hires the max number of people from INSEAD - more than any school globally
22:17	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@Abhinav yes they do i went on them as well
22:17	mib_60tqba	Amazing
22:18	abhinay	cool... must have been a great opportunity to network
22:18	Gautam29	guys how important are extracurricular activities for INSEAD - are they equally as important as for the US B-schools ?
22:18	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@Gautam: It depends completely on you; Some involve themselves in clubs, some focus on studies, some party hard 😊 So it all depends on what you prefer.
22:19	Yash	What strategies should be adopted in order to maximize chances of getting accepted to INSEAD (if you could just list out few imp one's)
22:19	Bikerdude	Hi again Akkshay, how's it living in France? From a personal perspective?
22:19	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	😊 @bikerdude - I live in the French country side, in the outhouse of an actual Chateau 😊 it sounds exactly like it is , its an amazing experience, don't get me wrong I'm a big city guy but have been here for 10 months and have really enjoyed it
22:19	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	You can be assured that if you join INSEAD whether in Singapore or Fonty, you WILL BE traveling every single weekend, you might just have to miss out on sleep. That's all 😊
22:20	nehaagarwal02	@Bikerdude.. I don't know about Fontainebleau.. but I just visited France last week and it's amazing.. Just going by the place.. I would chose that over any other.. (Provided I get in that is)
22:20	mib_hjk8vi	@Bikerdude - The winters are harsh but the summer is lovely. Beautiful countryside and entire Europe just a car/train trip away
22:21	takeTWO	INSEAD has one of the largest intakes nearly 1000 students in two campuses. How is the

		teacher 🙄 Student ratio in the class?
22:22	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@takeTWO - in your core curriculum, in France its 70: 1 Singapore about 40:1 - in electives its much less averaging 20-30:! some classes 10:1
22:22	Bikerdude	@Akkshay: how important is French if you are at the Fontainebleau campus? Also, post your MBA? Do employers look for candidates fluent in French? I live in Canada and could learn French if need be
22:23	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@bikerdude - it helps in the town but you can get by, post-MBA only if you want to work in France
22:23	takeTWO	@Akkshay - Thank you. I wrote to the admit committee last week. I have nearly 10 years of work exp and a GMAT score of 720. However, when I look at the class profile the years of experience is slightly younger. Generally what is the range and median years of experience in your class?
22:24	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@takeTWO - INSEAD values experience median is 7 years so 10 is not that much, we have quite a few students with 8-10 years experience so that is not a problem at inseed
22:24	nehaagarwal02	Regarding Applications.. Is social work considered as an advantage? Does having extracurricular compensate for the lack of the same,
22:24	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@Neha: social work is well regarded.... I had spent 1 year and I highlighted it in my apps
22:25	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@neha - do u mean substitute social work for sports? sure as long as you demonstrate what you have learned through your essays, thats more important than saying i played XYZ at amateur level for X years
22:25	abhinay	For the Sep Intake is there any opportunity for any kind of networking/project experience with companies? Will the treks suffice for that?
22:25	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@abhinay I was sept intake - yes they start in week 1 and don't stop !
22:26	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@yash: I think your question got lost. We can connect later if you want.
22:26	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	You can find me on www.admithour.com
22:26	sahilverma	Does AWA score taken into consideration at all ?? Coz i dnt see a mention of it in dere application portal??
22:27	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@sahil: It must be considered but I personally had a fairly low score.. you shouldn't worry about it.
22:27	takeTWO	Can you be honest about the career service at Inseed? I have generally heard its one of the best. Is it really true?
22:28	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@taketwo: Yes, the career services are quite good here, but you must be proactive in reaching out to them. They have sector specific advisors who are quite knowledgeable
22:28	marine	Does everybody willing to switch to strategy consulting manage doing so? Or did you see a decent number of students having to go to another industry than wanted?
22:29	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@marine - you have tons of consulting firms but all might not get job offers, that really depends on how they do in the interviews, some do end up taking industry, some realize through the process that consulting is not really for them given the travel and lifestyle, but there certainly isn't lack of opportunities for consulting, INSEAD is #1 for

		consulting
22:29	Bikerdude	@Akkshay: I read earlier that most students end up getting placed in UK/Singapore. Are there any other countries/regions where INSEAD students typically find themselves working after their MBA?
22:30	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@bikerdude - London SG is the place most people want to be after INSEAD, given that language is not an issue, within Europe you have several in Luxembourg, Zurich.
22:30	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@bikerdude - i forgot DUBAI - A LOT of students end up there - no tax ! 😊
22:30	nehaagarwal02	Last question 😊 .. You mentioned earlier that one of you is doing the Sept session and the other the Jan one. Apart from the internship bit is there any difference in the ways they are dealt with? Is the internship an advantage?
22:31	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@neha - No difference between batches, internship helps if YOU are not sure what to do post MBA then it gives you a good preview
22:31	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Any last questions?
22:31	Narenn	Abhishek and Akkshay: Please tell us about your Startup - AdmitHour.
22:32	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Thanks Narenn... we're a team at INSEAD and trying to democratize the MBA application process by providing a platform for MBA applicants (like all of you) to connect with current MBA students (like us)
22:33	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	I'll suggest spending one minute going through this video: http://www.admithour.com/pages/how-it-works This explains briefly what we're trying to achieve and support the MBA applicants.
22:33	Narenn	Soooo... is it safe to conclude that AdmitHour is an admission consulting company run by current students? How you would differentiate Admithour from traditional consultants??
22:34	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@Narenn, we are not admission consultants, we are current MBAs providing a platform where Applicants can get REAL ADVICE from Current MBAs at their Dream Schools. We don't push any packages, you only pay for a service you want - e.g. CV review, Strategy Session, Essay Review, Interview Prep, etc. - at 1/3 the cost - from MBAs who've been there done that
22:34	Yash	@Abhishek- can you please share your admit hour profile link
22:35	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Sure Yash: here you go: http://www.admithour.com/pages/how-it-works
22:35	Yash	I'm really looking forward of taking your service @Akkshay and Abhishek
22:35	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Sure Yash.
22:35	mib_91598x	Akkshay, being an Indian, which campus is better for placement opportunities and Salary packages?
22:36	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	@mib91598: There's no direct correlation... but given the language constraints, typically it's easier for Indians to find jobs in SE Asia and UK.
22:36	mib_60tqba	How about LGBT identity on the school admission?
22:36	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	@mib_60tqba - could you elaborate?
22:37	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	INSEAD welcomes all students irrespective of sexual preferences, there is a sizable

		LGBT community at INSEAD
22:37	Narenn	Alright!! We are out of time.
22:37	Narenn	Thanks everyone for joining today. Thanks Abhishek and Akkshay for answering queries of applicants.
22:37	Narenn	We will publish a condensed transcript of this chat in INSEAD forum. Keep an eye on this thread... http://gmatclub.com/forum/calling-all-insead-applicants-sept-2016-intake-class-of-july-200198.html
22:37	mib_60tqba	thanks all!
22:38	abhinay	Cheers guys!
22:38	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	Thanks guys. hope this helped, feel free to reach out to us akkshay@admithour.com good luck !
22:38	mib_91598x	Thanks Abhishek!
22:38	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Great, thanks guys,... Feel free to reach out to us at abhishek@admithour.com
22:39	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Fantastic questions guys...
22:39	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	look forward to staying in touch
22:39	INSEAD_Abhishek_AdmitHour	Thanks GMAT Club for organizing this.
22:39	INSEAD-Akkshay_AdmitHour	Thanks Narenn & Ergen for this excellent initiative!

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		
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/		