

Texas Executive MBA Virtual Chat Transcript October 24, 2011 12-1 p.m.

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: Welcome to the Texas EMBA Chat. Please review the notes on the left and enter your questions in the Q&A box at the bottom.

Vikram: The education history on the application form requires input of GPA score. For those of us who had our secondary and post graduate education outside of the United States, it is a little challenging to provide a correct indicative GPA score equivalent. Is it sufficient if we provide the actual percentage achieved and the copy of the mark sheet and degree certificates for the respective courses attended?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: Thanks for your question, Vikram. You do not need to convert a foreign GPA to a US equivalent. Please just enter it in whatever scale was used by your school. Once we receive your mark sheets, our Graduate and International Admissions Center will convert it for you, if necessary.

Vikram: Please provide some guidance on the requirement for a GMAT - is this an essential prerequisite or in case we have >20 years post graduation experience - we can seek an exemption? If so, what is the required procedure and protocol?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: Vikram, those with 15+ years experience; an advanced degree or 5 years mgmt can request a test score waiver. Waivers are not automatically granted to anyone who meets one or all of those criteria so all applicants should be prepared to take the test if asked of them by the admissions committee. To apply for the waiver, submit your online application and send an email to the program office requesting the waiver.

Kristen: I have 8 years of work experience, but I saw the most recent average was more than that. Can I still apply?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: There is a minimum of 5 years of work experience. The average is just that; an average.

Kristen: Should I wait until I take the GMAT to apply?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: Kristen, no, you can go ahead and apply and send in the test score later, once you take it.

St. Jude: Please send the link to the application.

Angela Zerda: The applications is available from our website along with very detailed instructions for the application. Visit http://www.mccombs.utexas.edu/MBA/EMBA/Admissions/Apply

G: Can you please advise when should Exec MBA program be considered versus Part Time? I do not think that the student profile should be the determinant, and if not that, what should be the determining criteria - such as education experience, career aspiration, etc

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: Both programs are excellent, but they are designed for different people. My suggestion would be to visit a class in each program to determine which program provides the best fit for you. If you apply for the EMBA program and it doesn't work out, we can always move your application to another program. In short, apply where you think you belong.

Vikram: What is the usual expectation in terms of "recommendations" - for example, is it more relevant that these are solicited from current peers / supervisors or is it acceptable to request these from people we may have closely worked with in the past, but who they may not be at different organizations now?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: Vikram, both types would be acceptable. We definitely recommend one supervisor recommendation (if possible) and beyond that, a client, past

colleague or current peer would be good as well. We definitely want them from people who know you very well and can attest to what sort of employee you've been and can provide details on how you have contributed to the organization.

sarosh saleemi: Is there a possibility that I can still be accepted to the 2012 upcoming semester for example if somebody drops out of the course at the last minute?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: Each class begins in August. We don't have a start date in the Spring semester.

sarosh saleemi: which classes should I take before that to help me with the course? I am a physician and has board-certifications etc.

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: Hi Sarosh, it's really up to you, we don't require any pre-work to be done prior to enrolling. Upon enrolling (in July), our students are given some pre-program study materials in areas such as accounting, that work well in preparing our students for the program. If you want to brush-up on some basic accounting/statistics topics on your own, you are welcome to do so (but again, it's not a requirement that you do so).

G: Like many other school, does UT review resumes in advance to comment on an applicants suitability to the UT Exec MBA program?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: I would be happy to meet in person or on the phone. Send an email to Sarah.Franklin@mccombs.utexas.edu and she can set up a resume review for us.

sarosh saleemi: Do you have evening classes in accounting or finance at this time? **Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions:** Sarosh, we offer our Texas Evening MBA program but those classes are only for students enrolled in that program. I think UT's Continuing Education Department might offer some of these classes. You could also check with Austin Community College.

G: How would you rate UT EMBA program - a regional, a national or an international program? How many students travel for the program from out of state?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: The average ranking of the Texas EMBA program is #9 in the world, so in that sense it is an international program. We have students from 16 different countries. About 40% of the students commute to Austin for class, but mostly from within Texas somewhere. Of those who live outside of Texas, we have students who commute from St. Louis, Orlando, San Diego, and Washington DC.

RJ: What is the best round to apply in?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: RJ- it's always better to apply earlier rather than later as seats will fill up later on in the process. I recommend that you not rush to put an application together, however, and apply only when you feel you've put together the strongest application possible. We are rolling admissions so if you do not have your application ready in time for a specific deadline, do NOT wait until the next deadline to submit- if you're ready to apply, do so as we review applications and make admission decisions in order of receipt.

sarosh saleemi: When is the start date of next evening MBA course and can the credits be counted towards EMBA course later on?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: Sarosh, the Texas Evening MBA program has the same admissions deadlines as the Executive program and classes also start each fall (August). Courses taken in the Evening program cannot be applied to EMBA later on. You should apply for the program in which you plan on graduating from.

Tatiana: Tatiana: Can I submit my application without the TOEFL score, and then by email I will send it?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: Tatiana, yes, you can submit your application without the TOEFL score. Also, just so you know, we can waive the TOEFL based on your work experience in the US and your English-speaking skills as assessed in an in-person interview. If you're invited in for an interview, we will let you know afterwards if we will require the TOEFL from you.

Angela Zerda: JUST WANTED TO LET EVERYONE KNOW THAT WE HAVE EIGHT MINUTES LEFT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS. WE WILL END AT 1PM.

Tatiana: I fill out the info about my recommenders, and they told me that they haven't received any email, what should I do?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: You can re-launch their recommendation emails from the online application. Please login and you will see "resend letters" on the first screen, which shows the status of each section of your application. Please be sure to have them check their spam folders. For more detailed instructions, please visit:

http://www.mccombs.utexas.edu/MBA/EMBA/Info-Sessions/OnlineEvents.aspx

And listen to the webinar I recorded on "Tips and Tricks of the Application".

Tatiana: How many recommenders do you recommend to have?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: We require 2 recommendations.

Tatiana: I don't have yet the visa information because I am waiting for an answer of a working visa of my husband, can I submit the application without that information?

Shannon Chapman-Sr Assoc Dir-Admissions: You can submit your visa information after you submit your application. You will submit it directly to the Graduate Office and instructions for uploading applications to that office are listed on the "Apply" page of the website.

G: how many applications do you receive and for what class size?

John Burrows, Texas EMBA Director: It's difficult to know, as we talk many out of ever finishing their application, or even applying at all. We consider our class at capacity at 65 students.

Angela Zerda: THANKS EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING. WE'LL HAVE OUR NEXT EMBA CHAT ON JANUARY 23, 2012. HAVE A GREAT WEEK!