I'm a senior by hours. Can I still apply to the ECON-MPA?
Yes, you can apply to the program with senior standing as long as you will not graduate with your undergraduate degree until the August following admission to the ECON-MPA. If you plan to graduate with your undergraduate degree prior to the summer semester of admission to the ECON-MPA, you should apply for direct entrance into the traditional MPA program. Information about this process can be found on the traditional MPA website. Please contact Keri Ledezma with any questions.

I do not meet the GPA requirements due to a past bad semester(s)/extenuating circumstances, but I am very interested in the ECON-MPA, and my recent scholastic performance is good. Can I still apply?
Due to the competitive nature of the ECON-MPA admissions, your chances for admission would be greatly reduced by not meeting or exceeding the minimum GPA requirements. The purpose of the ECON-MPA (via the Graduate Select Admission Program) is to encourage academically exceptional UT undergraduate economics students to remain at The University of Texas at Austin for the MPA degree. If your GPA does not meet the minimal requirements, we recommend that you raise your GPA while you complete your bachelor's degree and apply to the traditional MPA.

Is there a way to apply online?
There currently is no online application available. However, a downloadable application is available. Applications and supporting materials must be turned in to the MPA Program Office, McCombs School of Business, GSB 4.112C or mailed to the address listed on the application.

Can I obtain a recommendation from a lecturer or graduate student (who was employed as an assistant instructor or teaching assistant) or my internship supervisor?
No. The recommendation letters must come from tenure-track faculty or senior lecturers at The University of Texas at Austin. This is a Graduate School requirement that cannot be waived.

Does gaining admission to the ECON-MPA assure admission to the MPA program?
Even if you are accepted into the Graduate School Select Admission Program, you are not guaranteed automatic admission to graduate school. You may be denied admission if your academic record falls below the standards set by the MPA program or the Office of Graduate Studies. In the final semester of your B.A. degree program, you will initiate a change in status from undergraduate to graduate standing by completing a form provided by the Graduate School. You may continue your graduate MPA coursework after acquiring graduate standing and completing your B.A. degree. If your status is changed to graduate standing but you are not awarded your B.A. degree, the graduate standing will be removed and the MPA degree progress will not continue until the B.A. degree is conferred. You must satisfy all MPA degree and program requirements to receive the MPA degree.

I am currently enrolled in one of the courses listed as required to meet the eligibility requirements. Can I still apply even though I do not have a final grade in this course yet?
Ideally, you should have completed all required courses at the time of application. However, if you are enrolled in one of the upper-division courses at the time of application (such as ECO 320L) and you have already completed the other upper-division economics courses (ECO 420K, ECO 329) prior to application, you can still apply for nomination to the ECON-MPA. Economics majors who wish to enroll in ACC 311 or ACC 312 in the McCombs School of Business in the fall or spring should complete an Enrollment Control Petition. Traditional BBA courses that are typically restricted to
McCombs business students are available to all UT students during the summer. The Business Economics Option Program is highly recommended as an option to fulfill the accounting course requirements.

**Will I have access to the McCombs Career Services as soon as I am admitted to the ECON-MPA?**

ECON-MPA participants will have access to certain MPA resources including, but not limited to, academic and career advisory services, career workshops, and the MPA career fair.

**Will I be eligible to sit for the CPA exam?**

CPA exam eligibility requirements vary widely from state to state. Your educational background and the state in which you plan to sit for the exam will determine whether or not you will need to complete coursework above and beyond your MPA degree requirements in order to be eligible to sit for the CPA exam. Your MPA academic advisor will help you plan for CPA eligibility. If you wish to qualify for the CPA exam in Texas, you will need to complete courses beyond the B.A./MPA degree requirements if you have not completed any upper-division business coursework as an undergraduate student. As a result, you should consider incorporating upper-level business coursework through Business Economics or Business Foundations in your B.A. degree plan.