

UNC's Kenan-Flagler Business School Frequently Asked Questions

As applicants begin the process of applying to Kenan-Flagler, our Admissions Staff is often asked many of the same questions regarding application requirements and procedures. Below is a sampling of frequently asked general Admissions questions from our past online chats.

Question: What are your application fees and deadlines?

Answer: For application fees and deadlines, please see our website: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Apply/requirements.cfm>.

Question: What documents do I need to submit for admission? What tests do you require?

Answer: All Kenan-Flagler admissions requirements are explained on our website: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Apply/requirements.cfm>. Please note that this year we are accepting the GRE as well as the GMAT.

Question: I am not able to get a copy of my official transcript sent to Kenan-Flagler before the application deadline, is it acceptable for me to send a copy in the meantime?

Answer: Yes, we will accept an unofficial copy of your transcript, but require an official copy of your transcript if you are accepted into the program. For more specific details about transcript requirements, please see our website at: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Apply/requirements.cfm>.

Question: Do I have to take the TOEFL exam? My college courses were taught in English/I have been working in the US/I am working for a US company/I took a graduate course in the US/I am living in the US....

For more information regarding TOEFL requirements, please visit our website: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Apply/requirements.cfm>.

Question: I am concerned about my GMAT score. How detrimental will this score be to my admission to Kenan-Flagler?

Answer: The Admissions Committee will definitely weigh your GMAT score along with the other factors of your application. For example, we will review such factors that include, but are not limited to, your work experience (including specific responsibilities, work progressions, leadership, management, and teamwork experience), extra-curricular and community experiences, international experiences, recommendations from supervisors, and academic record, along with reading your essays. Your admissions interview is also an important factor for admission. We are unable to tell you whether your GMAT score will be detrimental to your

admission not only for the reasons stated above, but because the strength of the applicant pool varies each year. This year's incoming first year class had a wide range of GMAT scores, with the median GMAT score at 700. If you are below this median score, you might consider retaking your GMAT as we only look at the higher score. You might also consider highlighting, in other parts of your application, the strength of your analytical and quantitative skills. You might also consider taking quantitative classes such as calculus, statistics, accounting and microeconomics if you have not already taken those courses (or took those courses during your undergraduate studies but did not get a good grade) and submit your grades to us, in an effort to demonstrate your quantitative skills.

Question: Does Kenan-Flagler look at the overall GMAT score, or at the verbal and quantitative scores separately?

Answer: We look at both the overall score as well as the individual scores. For example, an applicant could have a very high GMAT score but a very low verbal score within the GMAT, indicating that perhaps they do not have a strong command of the English language. Conversely, an applicant could have a strong GMAT score with a very low quantitative component, suggesting that perhaps their quantitative skills could use improvement.

Question: What is the ideal time to take the GMAT?

Answer: You should take the GMAT at a time that is convenient for you to adequately prepare, and to be able to submit your score for the deadline in which you want to apply.

Question: I am concerned about my GPA. It is lower than your average, but I have been working for a number of years. Will my GPA adversely affect my admission to Kenan-Flagler?

Answer: The same answer applies as above with regard to the GMAT. The Admissions Committee will definitely weigh your academic record along with the other factors of your application. For example, we will review such factors that include, but are not limited to, your work experience (including specific responsibilities, work progressions, leadership, management, and teamwork experience), extra-curricular and community experiences, international experiences, recommendations from supervisors, GMAT core, along with reading your essays. Your admissions interview is also an important factor for admission. Whether you took quantitative courses such as accounting, calculus, microeconomics and statistics and received strong grades in those courses is important. If you did not get good grades in these and other quantitative courses, you might consider retaking these courses and submitting your grades to us. You might also consider highlighting, in other parts of your application, the strength of your analytical and quantitative skills. You may also write an optional essay explaining the strength of your quantitative skills despite your lower GPA.

Question: If I am applying through The Consortium for Graduate Study in Management, do I need to also complete the UNC application?

Answer: We are very excited this year to be part of The Consortium's common application. Applicants should apply through The Consortium and indicate that UNC is one of the 6 schools that they are applying to. Consortium applicants will still need to interview with Kenan-Flagler to satisfy their interview requirement. Please click on this link for more Consortium application information: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/programs/mba/apply/consortium-faq.cfm>.

Question: What information do I need to have in my in-progress application to be invited to interview?

Answer: Applicants need to input their personal information, employment history (including years worked and names of employers) and test scores. Once an applicant has provided this information, the Admissions Committee will determine whether the applicant will be invited to interview. For more information on our interview policy, please click on this link: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/interviewsVisits/index.cfm>.

Question: What kinds of questions will I be asked during my Admissions Interview? What is the interviewer looking for?

Answer: During the Admissions Interview, the interviewer will be assessing such factors including, but not limited to, strong communications skills, your work experience and accomplishments, your interests and accomplishments outside of work, your short and long term goals, your interest in Kenan-Flagler, and how Kenan-Flagler can help you achieve your goals. Each interviewer asks different questions related to these, and other, topics.

Question: I am living in a foreign country. Are there special application requirements for international applicants? May I schedule a phone interview instead of a campus interview?

Answer: International applicants may review this link for application requirements and specifics: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Apply/international.cfm>. If international applicants are unable to visit campus to interview, a phone interview is acceptable. Our interview policy is stated more fully on our website: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/interviewsVisits/index.cfm>.

Question: Are phone interviews given the same weight as on-campus interviews?

Answer: No particular interview method is given more weight, as we understand that not all applicants are able to travel to campus for their interview.

Question: Can you connect me with a current student?

Answer: Yes! We started a new program last year called the MBA Ambassadors Program, which links prospective students to current students. You can contact a current student by clicking on this link: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/programs/MBA/interviewsVisits/Ambassadors/index.cfm>. This is an exciting program because you can link to a student based on common parameters such as geographic region, career concentration, and undergraduate major.

Question: I am not able to provide a recommendation from a current supervisor because 1) I have not told my supervisor I am applying to business school or 2) I have not been at this job for very long and don't feel this supervisor knows me well enough. Can I submit a reference from a professor? Peer?

Answer: We prefer recommendations from a person who is in a supervisory capacity who has had a chance to closely observe your work and can comment on your skills. If you have not informed your current supervisor that you will be applying to business school, or do not feel your current supervisor has worked with you long enough to best comment on your skills, we recommend that you submit a recommendation from a former supervisor or client. We also recommend that you indicate in an optional essay why you are not providing a recommendation from a current supervisor.

Question: What is the process for applying for financial aid?

Answer: Financial aid is awarded on an individual basis and is explained more fully on our website, <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Tuition/index.cfm>.

Question: Do you offer scholarships/merit fellowships?

Answer: We do offer merit fellowships. Information on fellowship opportunities can be found on our website: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Tuition/fellowships.cfm>. To be considered for a fellowship, you just need to apply to Kenan-Flagler by our third deadline (January 7, 2010).

Question: Can I work during school to pay for my tuition?

Answer: Typically, students do not work while enrolled in the MBA program due to the time demands of the program. For more information on student loans and financial aid, please visit our website: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Tuition/aid.cfm>.

Question: If I enroll, can I qualify for in-state tuition after my first year?

Answer: For in-state tuition requirements, please visit our website for more detailed information on who qualifies: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Tuition/residency.cfm>.

Question: I have been working for less than two years since college. Will I still be considered for your program?

Answer: We recommend that our applicants have a minimum of two years work experience post-college by the time you actually begin the MBA program, not at the time you apply. While this is not a requirement, it is a strong recommendation. Most importantly, we would need to know what your work experience has been - your job responsibilities, the skills you have developed, and whether you have any leadership, management and teamwork experience. In your essays and interview, it would also be helpful for you to explain why you would like to obtain your MBA at this point in your career. But certainly, if you have had strong work experience for two years before the start of the MBA program, your application would be considered. For your information, this year's entering first year class had an average of 5 years of work experience.

Question: Does applying for a dual degree/dual program affect my application to Kenan-Flagler in any way?

Answer: No, it does not. Your application to Kenan-Flagler is a separate application considered on its own merits.

Question: If accepted, can I defer my enrollment?

Answer: No, we do not allow deferrals except for medical emergencies or military deployment.

Question: Do you have a lot of career changers apply?

Answer: Yes, approximately 50% of our applicants are career changers.

Question: I am an older applicant. How will the Admissions Committee view my application?

Answer: The average age of this year's entering class is 28. When reviewing applications of applicants, no matter what age, the Admissions Committee will closely examine the applicant's work experience, specifically the progression of jobs and the responsibilities and skills that the applicant has developed. The Admissions Committee will also evaluate why the candidate wants to pursue an MBA at this point in their career and how the applicant articulates how their previously developed skills will transfer to the goals they wish to achieve.

Question: Are certain deadlines more competitive? Do I have a better chance of getting accepted in a certain deadline?

Answer: Since each year the quality and quantity of the applicant pool varies, we can't anticipate what this year's deadlines will hold. Our recommendation is that if you are interested in applying, you apply in the earliest deadline that you are able to. In past years, our

experience has been that we have had fewer spots to offer applicants in our 4th deadline, as our class starts to fill at that point.

Question: How is an application reviewed?

Answer: The application is reviewed by several members of our Admissions staff who read through the application in its entirety, with a final read by an Associate Director, who then presents the application to the entire Admissions Committee for discussion and review.

Question: Can I submit additional information/documentation once I have completed my application, if there is a positive development in my career/extracurriculars?

Answer: Yes, if you have been promoted, experienced a change of work responsibilities, received a company award, or have a positive change in community leadership, we'd like to hear about it. You can send this additional information to our Records Room Manager, Sharon Moore, at Sharon_Moore@unc.edu.

Question: Are admissions decisions made on a rolling basis? How soon after I apply will I find out if I was admitted?

Answer: Decisions are not made on a rolling basis. You will be informed of your admissions decision depending in which deadline you applied. For application deadlines and decision release dates, please visit our website: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Apply/deadlines.cfm>.

Question: I have taken MBA courses at another university/am currently enrolled in another MBA program. Will Kenan-Flagler accept transfer credit if I am admitted?

Answer: No, Kenan-Flagler does not accept transfer credit.

Question: What was last's year's class profile?

Answer: For facts about the incoming Class of 2012, please click on this link: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/MBA/Apply/profile.cfm>.

For additional specific questions about application requirements, please contact our Records Room Manager, Sharon Moore, directly at Sharon_moore@unc.edu.

For additional general admissions questions, please email mba_info@unc.edu.

