GMAT® Test Security

Business schools around the world trust the GMAT® exam as the one objective measure of academic potential that is truly secure, standardized, and comparable worldwide. The Graduate Management Admission Council has been recognized as a world leader in test security for its efforts to provide the fairest, most accurate, and most reliable measure of academic potential for graduate management study. GMAC's philosophy is that a test that isn't fair to everyone isn't fair to anyone.

Before the Test

Numerous test center protocols help ensure that the person taking the test is the same person whose scores are sent to schools, and that the test taker does not get any outside help while taking the test.

- Test takers sit for a digital photo and provide government-issued ID. They also sign, with a digital signature, testing and non-disclosure agreements that detail the GMAT test policies forbidding accessing and sharing content as well as the consequences for doing so.

- Passports may be checked for forgery by a passport reader.

- A biometric device records each test taker's unique palm vein pattern so it can be compared with those of previous test takers. "One to many" matching identifies test takers trying to take the exam for others.

Test takers provide a digital signature and palm vein pattern.

Privacy Is Paramount

GMAC treats test taker data with the highest level of privacy and integrity. For instance, the palm vein pattern record is encrypted and used only to detect fraud. GMAC's data protection program has been honored by the *International Association of Privacy Professionals.*
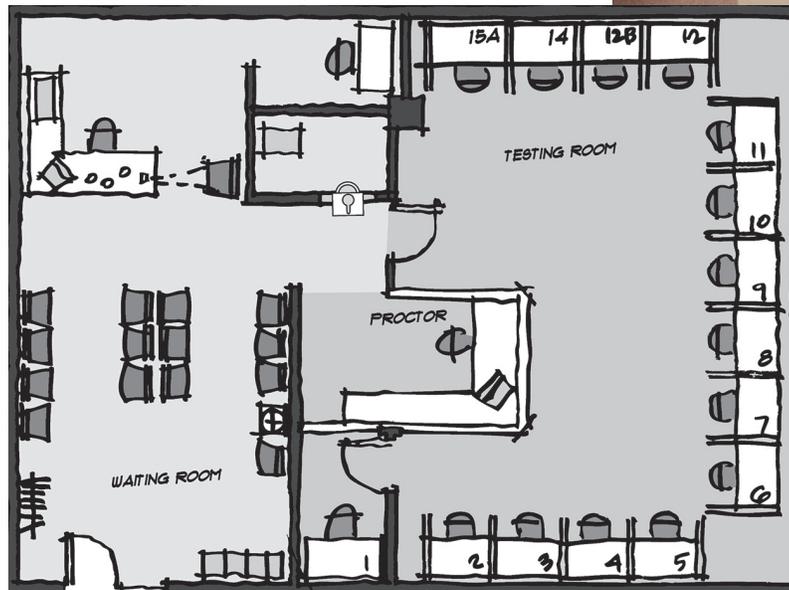
During the Test

Security is built into the GMAT exam design:

- The Verbal and Quantitative sections are computer adaptive, meaning that test takers get different questions tailored to their skill levels. Each test is different, so even if a test taker remembers a test question well enough to share it with others, it's very likely that others won't see the same question when they take the exam.

A patented test center design allows for live proctoring.

- Questions designed for the Integrated Reasoning section are data-heavy and thus difficult to copy or memorize.
- A uniform, patented test center design allows a live proctor to monitor up to 15 test takers at individual stations. Audio and video monitoring capabilities are also built in.

After the Test

Verification and review continue after the test taker has taken the exam:

- Forensic analysis of the test and test taker data are done to identify unusual patterns.
- Any irregularities, including policy or serious violations at the test center, are reviewed.
- If cheating is detected, GMAC's policy is to not only cancel scores but also to notify schools to which scores are sent.
- All score cancellations are noted on Official GMAT Score Reports, along with a reason code:
  C: Self-canceled by test taker
  T: Testing issue
  P: Policy violation
  S: Serious violation
- Schools are encouraged to log into the secure Score Reporting Website to download Official Score Reports. Photographs of test takers are also available on the site if schools need to verify that the test taker is the applicant.

For more on the GMAT exam and security go to **gmac.com/gmatsecurity**