

GMAT® FAQs

Q: WHY SHOULD I TAKE THE TEST AS AN UNDERGRAD?

A: You are in your prime studying and test-taking mode as an undergraduate. So take the GMAT exam now! Your score is good for 5 years, and you do not need to select the schools to receive your score until you are ready to apply.

Q: ARE THERE ANY EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS?

A: There is a \$100 discount available exclusively to undergraduates. The discounted exam fee is \$150.

Q: IF I GRADUATE IN DECEMBER, HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE PRICING?

A: You can take advantage of the undergraduate discount as long as you are an undergraduate. Once you graduate, you will not be eligible for the discounted undergraduate pricing. To receive the undergraduate pricing, simply register to take the test before you graduate. You have up to six months to take the exam.

Q: WHERE AND WHEN CAN I TAKE THE GMAT EXAM?

A: The GMAT exam is delivered year-round and on-demand at test centers around the world. Visit mba.com/us/the-gmat-exam/register for a test center locator. There may be a location on or near your campus.

Q: WHAT DOES THE GMAT EXAM MEASURE?

A: The GMAT exam measures higher-order reasoning skills. You'll need basic English-language and 10th-grade math skills. However, the test measures your ability to reason with these skills. All sections of the test, including the Analytical Writing Assessment and Integrated Reasoning sections, involve reasoning. "Higher-order" reasoning skills involve complex judgments and include critical thinking, analysis, and problem-solving.

Q: WHAT SCHOOLS USE GMAT SCORES?

A: More than 7,000 graduate management programs around the world use GMAT scores as part of their admissions process. These programs include the MBA as well as specialized master's programs in business, finance, accounting, public policy, HR, and many more. The GMAT exam tends to be preferred by most accounting programs. Many consulting firms ask for GMAT scores when hiring. Find schools and programs that accept the GMAT exam at gmat.com/undergrads.

Q: IS THE GMAT GOOD FOR MASTER'S PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS MBA PROGRAMS?

A: Yes. Over 7,000 graduate management programs, including specialized master's programs, accept the GMAT exam.

Q: HOW LONG DO I NEED TO STUDY?

A: This will vary from person to person based on your educational background, years out of school, and other factors. However, we can provide general stats relevant to test-taking outcomes. Those who score 700 or greater report studying for 80 total hours, on average. Generally speaking, the more you prep, the better you do.

Q: ARE THERE OFFICIAL GMAT PREP SESSIONS (IN PERSON OR ONLINE)?

A: Although the Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC) offers a portfolio of GMAT prep products, we do not offer GMAT prep sessions. Students should connect with the Graduate Business Program office on their campus or the Office of Continuing Education to see if GMAT prep sessions are offered. Students are also encouraged to start their own study groups, and don't forget to download the FREE GMAT Official Practice at gmat.com/undergrads.

Q: WHERE CAN I FIND GMAT MATERIALS TO STUDY?

A: We offer a FREE GMAT Official Practice to all who register with an account on gmat.com/getstarted, as well as additional Official GMAT prep material available for purchase at gmat.com/undergrads, to help you prepare. Our research shows that candidates who download the free GMAT Official Practice and complete a practice test do better on the GMAT exam. You should prepare until you are comfortable with the test question formats and timing. It is critical that you understand what types of questions to expect and how to pace yourself. Preparation time is individual, but six to eight weeks is recommended.

Q: WHAT IS A GOOD SCORE? WHAT SHOULD BE MY GOAL?

A: The most important thing to know is that a good GMAT score for one person is not necessarily the same as a good GMAT score for another person. Ultimately, you need to identify the GMAT score you would need to get into your target program or programs. To set your target school, we recommend identifying your target schools, researching the program's application requirements and statistics on the programs, most recently admitted class, and, if possible, talking to current students and the admissions committee.

Q: WHEN DO I RECEIVE MY SCORE?

A: You can preview your unofficial scores immediately following test completion. You can decide to keep or cancel your score at this time. Your Official Score Report will be available to you within 20 calendar days of your GMAT exam. Once your scores are reportable, Pearson VUE will send an email. You may view, download, or print your Official Score Report by visiting: www.mba.com/mygmat.

Q: FOR HOW LONG IS MY SCORE VALID?

A: Your score is valid for up to 5 years. You can take the test now and wait up to 5 years to decide if you'd like to pursue a graduate management degree.

Q: HOW MANY SCHOOLS CAN I SEND MY SCORE TO? HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

A: You can send your score to as many schools as you would like within 5 years of your test date. Additional score reports can be ordered online for a fee. Log in to your account and click on **My GMAT & Scores**. Currently, additional score reports cost \$50.

Q. CAN YOU SELECT SCORES TO SEND IF YOU'VE TAKEN THE EXAM MORE THAN ONCE?

A: As long as you have saved or reinstated your scores, you can send them at any time within 5 years of testing, even if you've taken the exam on multiple occasions.

Q: IF I DON'T LIKE MY SCORE, CAN I CANCEL IT?

A: Yes. After you've answered your last question, you will then see your unofficial score report (essay score is not included). At this point, you will be able to decide whether you would like to accept your score or cancel it, at no additional cost. You will have two minutes to make this decision, so we suggest that you come to the test center with an idea of your minimum score threshold in order to easily make the decision to accept or cancel your score. If you cancel your score, no one will know but you. After the test you have up to 72 hours to cancel your score. The fee is \$25.

Q: CAN I RETAKE THE TEST? HOW MANY TIMES?

A: Yes. You can retake the test after a 16-day waiting period since your last test. Candidates cannot exceed taking five GMAT exams within a 12-month period.

Q: WHAT DO THE QUESTIONS LOOK LIKE?

A: To get an overview of the GMAT exam basics, learn about the different question types, and understand the structure, and format of the GMAT exam, download our FREE GMAT Official Practice at [gmat.com/undergrads](https://www.gmat.com/undergrads). Click on **Study Tools** in the top navigation.

Q: AS MANY SCHOOLS ACCEPT BOTH GMAT AND GRE SCORES, WHICH EXAM SHOULD I TAKE? WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM?

A: Only the GMAT exam measures higher-order reasoning skills such as complex judgment and includes critical thinking, analysis, and problem-solving similar to what you would expect to face in the business world. The GRE is more of a general test and not designed to assess your readiness for a graduate management business program.

Q: I DON'T HAVE A BUSINESS OR TECHNICAL BACKGROUND. WILL I DO BETTER ON THE GRE?

A: If you are coming from a liberal arts or non-technical undergraduate program and have a weaker quantitative skills background, the GMAT exam can showcase your ability to pursue a more rigorous business program. The Quantitative Reasoning section, in particular, may be a useful component in helping you stand out.

Q: IS THE GMAT HARDER THAN THE GRE?

A: It would not be fair to say that one is harder or easier than the other, as it is based on the individual test taker's perception. The tests are different, and they test different abilities.