

GRADUATE MANAGEMENT ADMISSION COUNCIL®

Membership Policy

Adopted September 25, 2008

Statement of Purpose

This document is designed to provide guidance to schools wishing to seek or maintain membership in the Council.

Background

The Graduate Management Admission Council® (“GMAC” or the “Council”) is an international association of business schools distinguished by their commitment to excellence in graduate management education and to the mission and values of the Council.

Membership in the Council is by invitation by the GMAC Board of Directors. The Council maintains a standing Membership Committee, which periodically evaluates non-member schools for invitation to membership, and evaluates current members to assure their sustained commitment to quality education, to fair and ethical treatment of candidates and students, and to serving the management education community at large.

In its evaluation of business schools, the Membership Committee is guided by an interest in maintaining a membership that is representative of the very best business schools in the world that reflect and support the mission and values of the Council.

The Mission of the Council is to be the leader in the discovery and evaluation of talent, through assessments, for programs of study in management and business education around the world.

COUNCIL VALUES

Excellence	The members of GMAC are business schools distinguished by the quality of their educational programs, their students and the services they provide to ensure their students’ success in school and after graduation into professional careers.
Integrity	The members of GMAC hold themselves and their students to the highest ethical standards both within and outside our industry. Members are committed to ensuring the fair, accurate and ethical representations of their school’s brand and information where it is made public.
Global Engagement	The members of GMAC are committed to actively participating in, and supporting the development of and access to, quality management education around the world.
Creating Access	The members of GMAC value diversity in all aspects of management education and are committed to creating and promoting access to people throughout the world whose lives and careers could be enhanced through quality management education.
Community	The members of GMAC will bring their professional talents, experience and insights to bear in serving management education. Each school will give back to the management education community and in doing so will ensure that excellence remains at the heart of the management education experience.

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Policy History

In 2004, the Task Force on Membership and Governance formed to re-examine the current bylaws, as well as the membership and governance policies. Recommendations, including revisions to the bylaws, were presented for a vote before the full membership and approved on October 5, 2005.

After considering the outcomes of its experience with the current policy coupled with an assessment of the market realities facing business schools today, the Membership Committee felt that in the Fall of 2007 it was time re-examine and amend the bylaws and Membership Policy to enable the Council and its members to focus on their shared commitment to excellence in graduate management education and to the mission and values of this organization.

In amending the policy, the Membership Committee sought to:

1. Clarify what distinguishes member schools of GMAC from all other schools.
2. Encourage a strong and unified membership that fully identifies with and supports the mission and values of the organization.
3. Build consensus on what is important about membership and how continuing and new members will be evaluated and treated.
4. Deepen the engagement and support of members for the Council's role in serving as an advocate for quality management education worldwide as well as a valued source of resources, products and services for participants in management education.

Membership

The Graduate Management Admission Council® is a community of schools that work together to support the highest standards of professional practice in graduate management education. Together, members of the Council have created the premier admissions assessment for graduate management education, the Graduate Management Admission Test® ("GMAT"). Through the influence and participation of member schools, the Council has developed professional development programs, research and a host of products and services that have positively impacted the development and administration of graduate management education around the world.

Throughout its history, the Council has provided a forum for member school professionals to participate in and influence the discussion about graduate management education. Moreover, the members of the Council form a network of schools committed to the open exchange of ideas and best practices that serve the collective interests of the community.

Membership in GMAC is school-based, and is open to institutions that offer a master's program in business administration or management subjects or the equivalent. Once invited to membership, it is presumed that membership is continuing and it is the responsibility of members to adhere to all aspects of this policy. However, members may be periodically monitored to ensure their sustained and demonstrated commitment to the mission and values of the Council.

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In addition, because the Board of Directors sets the strategic agenda of the Council, member schools are expected to vote in all Board elections and any other matters that may come before the Council. The chief executive officer of the school (i.e., the Dean, Principal, President, or other appropriate title) must annually designate two official representatives – a Primary and an Alternate.

Criteria and Eligibility:

Membership in the Council is at the discretion of the GMAC Board of Directors (“Board”). The Board is charged with maintaining a membership that reflects and supports the Council’s mission and values. When evaluating schools for membership, the Council’s Board considers numerous factors, including the Board's assessment of the strategic interests of the Council, the prospective school’s alignment with the Council's principles, and other criteria established or adopted by the Board.

Indicators that assist the Council’s Board when evaluating potential new members include:

A Sustained Commitment to Providing Quality Graduate Management Education

This commitment is displayed through:

- A quality learning experience for all students as demonstrated by accreditation (or pending accreditation) by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB); the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD); Association of MBAs (AMBA®); accreditation by the governing body of the school’s home country; and/or sustained partnerships at the graduate level with current GMAC member schools.
- Global engagement as demonstrated through such activities as partnerships and/or exchange programs with other schools outside the school’s home country; candidate recruitment efforts that span multiple countries; representation of multiple citizenship in the student body and on the faculty; student clubs, organizations, or events that promote a global perspective; course offerings and/or program offerings which also promote a global perspective.
- Providing students with the ability to leverage their graduate management education in a global context while in school, upon graduation, and into in their career.

A Sustained Commitment to Fair and Ethical Treatment of Candidates and Students

This commitment is displayed through:

- Appropriate use of the GMAT during the admissions process when evaluating a candidate’s academic potential for a specific graduate management program.
- An admissions process designed to assess appropriately the students’ abilities and educational needs and to match them to the education program delivered.
- Providing public-facing school data (class profiles, survey responses, etc.) in accordance with the MBA Reporting Criteria to ensure fair, accurate, and ethical representation of school information.
- The publication and application of a student code of conduct that outlines the ethical standards of conduct expected of the student body. This code may originate and be enforced at either the school or university level.

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- Conducting regular, systematic review of students' academic progress and pursuing remedial action where appropriate.
- Providing auxiliary services that enrich and support the academic experience, such as student clubs, internships, academic exchanges, and career services.

A Sustained Commitment to Serving the Graduate Management Education Community

This commitment is displayed through:

- The school's educational programs and/or extra-curricular activities that have been designed to develop responsible global leaders.
- Production or participation in outreach/pipeline development activities (on-campus or off-campus recruiting events, sessions, or programs; printed recruiting materials; and/or website content) that help create and promote access to graduate management education for all people, including those of varying races and ethnic backgrounds, genders, socio-economic conditions, religious preferences, sexual orientations, educational backgrounds, and/or professional experiences, throughout the world.
- A commitment to professional development and continuing education for the school's administrative staff through industry-related on-campus or off-campus seminars, workshops or programs; certificate or degree programs; and/or conferences or conventions.
- Participation in GMAC surveys such as the Global MBA® Graduate Survey, MBA Alumni Perspectives Survey, Corporate Recruiters Survey, and/or Application Trends Survey.
- Providing annually admissions, class profile and graduation data to assist in the Council's efforts to produce information that accurately presents the size and changing demands of graduate management education.

Approved by the Board of Directors on September 25, 2008.

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