The University of Chicago Booth School of Business

Founded in 1898, the University of Chicago Booth School of Business (http://www.chicagobooth.edu) is the second-oldest business school in the United States and one of the most distinguished. The school’s programs consistently rank highly in surveys, and the school has a strong reputation for innovation in both research and teaching. For example, Chicago Booth faculty (http://www.chicagobooth.edu/faculty/directory/) have made significant contributions in the areas of finance, the economics of regulation, and decision making. For more than a century, Chicago Booth has been known as an innovator in business education and a creator of ideas.

In autumn 2004 Chicago Booth opened its Hyde Park Center. Named the Charles M. Harper Center in 2007, this facility brought together all of Chicago Booth’s previously existing Hyde Park campus buildings into one 415,000-square-foot space. Located at 5807 South Woodlawn Avenue, Harper Center was designed around how teachers want to teach and how students want to learn. With the opening of Harper Center, Chicago Booth could lay claim to the best business school facilities in the world. Chicago Booth is the only business school with permanent campuses on three continents. Built in 1994, Gleacher Center, off Michigan Avenue in downtown Chicago, provides state-of-the-art executive education and conference facilities and is home to the school’s part-time MBA programs. In London, Woolgate Exchange is the home of the school’s Executive MBA Program Europe. In Hong Kong, the Cyberport, located in a bustling metropolis with excellent communications and transportation, is the location for the Executive MBA Program Asia.

The University of Chicago Booth School of Business offers six programs of study leading to a degree: four leading to an MBA (the Full-Time MBA Program, the Evening MBA Program, the Weekend MBA Program, and the Executive MBA Program), one leading to an IMBA (the International MBA Program), and the PhD Program.

The Full-time MBA Program

The MBA curriculum is designed to prepare students for significant careers in management. It encompasses both the basic disciplines that underlie management and the operational areas specific to business. The courses are designed to provide understanding of the components of managerial decision making while furnishing perspective on the role of business as an economic, political, and social institution.

The MBA experience is not restricted to the classroom at Chicago Booth. Although Booth is not a case study institution, a substantial percentage of the total course work, depending on the student’s choice of classes, will consist of various kinds of cases and applied analyses as well as several opportunities to participate in experiential courses which provide hands-on learning with actual business challenges. Because of the school’s location in one of the world’s major commercial centers, students meet business, economic, labor, and political leaders at the numerous lecture and seminar series held on campus and through alumni and friends in Chicago’s business community.

Freedom of choice is a way of life at Chicago Booth. Professors are free to use the teaching method they believe to be most effective; students are free to choose the courses (https://intranet.chicagobooth.edu/pub/coursesearch/coursesearch/) and professors (http://www.chicagobooth.edu/faculty/directory/) from whom they can best learn. In addition, students are encouraged to make use of the resources of the entire university and take advantage of the critical and intellectual diversity that thrives on the campus. The Chicago Booth MBA is characterized by a willingness to experiment, to judge people by their performances rather than their origins, to judge ideas by their consequences rather than their antecedents.

Chicago Booth’s Leadership Effectiveness and Development Program (http://www.chicagobooth.edu/programs/full-time/academics/lead/) (LEAD) was founded in 1989 as one of the first experiential leadership programs at a major business school. Held during autumn quarter and lead by second-year student facilitators, the program provides a common educational experience within a curriculum that has always offered exceptional flexibility. This required, noncredit course for full-time program students is designed to enhance self-awareness and interpersonal effectiveness through a varied and highly interactive curriculum. Through these experiences, students will enhance their mastery of three of the most important aspects of leadership: building relationships, inspiring others, and influencing outcomes. Other class activities in autumn quarter revolve around the 10 student cohorts assigned during LEAD that help build a sense of community, instill the value of teamwork, and acquaint students with the school.

The school admits persons with a wide variety of backgrounds. The normal prerequisite is a four-year bachelor's degree, or equivalent, from an accredited institution. Students who do not have a bachelor's degree may apply to the school for special eligibility. Those interested in consideration for special eligibility must receive approval before an application is submitted and should, therefore, write to the director of admissions for further information.

Requests for an application and other inquiries should be addressed to the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, The University of Chicago Booth School of Business, 5807 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago,
Joint Degree Programs

Chicago Booth participates in joint degree programs with several other schools and divisions of the University: the Law School; School of Social Service Administration; Pritzker School of Medicine; Irving B. Harris Graduate School of Public Policy; Department of Computer Science; East European/Russian, Middle Eastern, South Asian, and Latin American area study centers; and Committee on International Relations. These programs allow the student to pursue combined programs of study. For more information on the joint MBA/AM programs in international relations or Middle Eastern, East Asian, East European/Russian, Latin American, and South Asian studies, contact the Committee on Joint MBA/AM Programs, The University of Chicago Booth School of Business, 5807 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60637. For all other joint programs, write to the director of admissions of Chicago Booth and the dean of students of the appropriate school.

The Part-Time MBA Programs

The Evening MBA Program

The University of Chicago pioneered the concept of part-time MBA study for men and women employed in management and the professions. Even though the school’s Evening MBA Program is more than fifty years old, it is still unique in the field of management education because it is identical in every important way to the full-time program. Entrance requirements and degree requirements are the same for both programs, and courses are taught by the same faculty.

While the academic aspects of the full-time and part-time programs are the same, their logistics are quite different. Evening MBA classes meet on weeknights in the school’s convenient downtown location at Gleacher Center, 450 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, along the north bank of the Chicago River between Michigan Avenue and Columbus Drive. Approximately 1,600 students from a diverse background of job functions and industries are currently engaged in part-time study in the program. Many of the students come from Chicago area banks and financial institutions; heavy industry, consulting, advertising, and the entrepreneurial and nonprofit sectors also are well represented. Job titles of current students range from new management trainees to senior executive officers.

Evening MBA students are required to complete Leadership Exploration and Development. This program is initiated during Launch, an orientation program, and continues throughout the program of study.

Classes are available in all four academic quarters. Students completing two courses per quarter will fulfill the program requirements in two-and-one-half years, although the average graduation time is approximately three years. All MBA candidates are allowed a maximum of five years to complete the degree program.

Admissions information is available online (http://www.chicagobooth.edu/programs/evening/admissions/).

The Weekend MBA Program

Many managers often find it convenient to take their classes on Saturdays due to travel schedules or the location of their offices far from Chicago. To meet the needs of individuals and their companies, Booth provides an additional avenue of continuing education in its Weekend MBA Program. Students take courses on Saturday mornings and Saturday afternoons at the convenient downtown Gleacher Center and thereby can complete the MBA program in as little as two-and-one-half years. Some students fly in from across the country and around the globe, with over 70 percent of weekend students living outside of Illinois. The Weekend MBA Program follows in the Chicago Booth tradition of offering all MBA candidates the same academic program, same faculty, and same degree as the full-time and evening MBA programs.

Weekend MBA students are required to complete Leadership Exploration and Development. This program is initiated during Launch, an orientation program, and continues throughout the program of study.

Classes are available in all four academic quarters. Students completing two courses per quarter will fulfill the program requirements in two-and-one-half years, although the average graduation time is approximately three years. All MBA candidates are allowed a maximum of five years to complete the degree program.

Admissions information is available online (http://www.chicagobooth.edu/programs/weekend/admissions/).

The Executive MBA Program

The Executive MBA Program is a part-time MBA program designed to prepare experienced executives to be more effective general managers.

Each year, approximately 90 students are admitted to each location of study in this intensive, twenty-month program. The Executive MBA Program curriculum emphasizes the value of learning in groups and sharing experiences. Students will participate primarily at one of our three international locations: downtown Chicago (Gleacher Center); London (One Bartholomew Close); or Hong Kong (the The Hong Kong Jockey Club University of Chicago Academic Complex); students will have an opportunity to study at each campus over their
The PhD Program

The PhD Program is an integral part of Chicago Booth. The school began the first PhD program in business in the United States in 1920 and awarded its first PhD degree in 1922. Since then, more than eight hundred degrees have been granted.

The program leading to the degree of doctor of philosophy is designed for students of outstanding ability who desire advanced studies in preparation for careers in university teaching and research. The number of students admitted to the program each year is small and, within the framework of the general requirements described below, programs of study are designed to fit individual interests. Students with a variety of backgrounds are admitted to the program; undergraduates with strong academic backgrounds (e.g., economics, mathematics, psychology, sociology) and strong research interests are encouraged to apply.

Information about the program and application materials are available online (http://www.chicagobooth.edu/programs/phd/).

Booth Book Fee

Cases, articles, and simulations are delivered electronically through Canvas, faculty course webpages, or hard-copy in class. Students enrolled in a Booth course will incur a $25 per course fee, assessed via their tuition bill. Students may be required to purchase a text book in addition to this expense.