



Interview with Cornell Admissions

Q: What is special about your MBA program? In addition to its' excellent reputation, what differentiates it from other Top MBA programs?

A: *With Johnson's unique Two-Year MBA immersion learning approach, you'll be able to focus your studies on an industry of your choice in your first year—you'll learn more, sooner. Whether you're looking to enhance your existing career or switch to a new one, you'll chart a path that will lead you to make the biggest impact.*

Q: Are there any recent changes in the programs or in the admission process?

A: *Johnson's program has recently been STEM-designated, full-time Two-Year MBA program features one-of-a-kind curriculum, with fully integrated leadership development components and the opportunity to take advantage of programming offered in partnership with Cornell Tech in New York City.*

The program's STEM designation recognizes a path in management science with an emphasis in data analytics, technology, and other similar disciplines integral to contemporary business leadership.

International students on an F-1 visa pursuing the program are eligible for a STEM OPT extension, enabling them to work in their field for a total of up to 36 months in the U.S. This extra 24 months makes them more hireable, affords them extended professional training, and gives them additional chances in the annual lottery for limited U.S. H-1B skilled worker visas.

Q: Has the COVID-19 situation have an impact on getting accepted to the programs at your school? Is there any other impact candidates should be aware of?

A: *COVID19 has not impacted gaining acceptance into our program. It will be important for international students to begin their visa process early once gaining admission to ensure plenty of time to have a visa appointment.*

Q: Can you share some details about the atmosphere in the school? Amongst the students? Between students and faculty? How do students spend their free time?

A: *Our Two-year program is good choice for those looking to move into management roles or change industries, the Two-Year MBA is a full-time program that gives you the chance to participate in student organizations, develop your leadership capabilities, enjoy a family-friendly town, and earn a flexible MBA that will empower you to make an impact. Students participate in professional and social clubs, global learning opportunities, and leadership development programs.*



Q: Can you share some details about the area the school is located in?

A: *You'll draw as much inspiration from the stunning beauty of our gorges and waterfalls as you will from our thriving intellectual community, vibrant downtown, and eclectic culture. Join in local events and activities throughout the year, whether you're into the foodie scene, the arts, outdoor adventure, wine and beer trails, or startup incubators and makerspaces.*

Q: Can you share some details regarding job opportunities and summer internships for students in your school?

A: *For Johnson Two-Year MBA students, the Career Management Center (CMC) provides you with industry-leading personalized service, coaching, and training that develops you into the strongest candidate possible for a competitive marketplace.*

The first year of your MBA program will help you lay the foundation for your post-MBA career. From core classes, core teams, and career work groups, everything happens strategically to prepare you to excel at your internship and get the job you seek.

Our foundational approach blends personalized development with connection cultivation and insider knowledge through advising, networking, and skill development.

Q: What is it that you are looking for in a candidate? Who will especially enjoy this school? who will be a good fit to the school?

A: *While many MBA programs are known for their cut-throat, competitive environment, this is not the case at Johnson. Our students are dedicated and hardworking (it's the Ivy League, after all), but they're also supportive and willing to lend a hand to their peers.*

Second years act as coaches to the first years. Faculty get to know the people in their classes. Diversity of culture, thought, and experience is of the utmost importance—Johnson was one of the first top business schools to have an Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Students set ground rules for interacting with each other and define expectations on the earliest days of preterm.

Q: One most important piece of advice for an applicant based on your experience?

A: *Applicants have the opportunity to attend our virtual events, classes, meet and greets, and really get to know our community. We highly recommend that students use our community search tool to connect with current students and learn about the Johnson experience firsthand.*

Q: What NOT to do in the admissions process?



A: *Applicants should be active participants in their admission process, attending events, webinars, connecting with community members, and ensuring all application materials have been received. Students who fully explore the possibilities, conduct research, and stay connected will have a great admissions experience.*

Q: Are later rounds worth considering?

A: *We highly encourage our international students to submit in our October or January round. Applicants who submit in our rolling rounds will typically miss qualifying for scholarships and will have a more challenging time completing their visa process in a timely manner.*

Q: GMAT and importance as a % of the candidacy? What is the minimum GMAT you are looking for?

A: Students should aim to obtain experience and scores that fall within our average class profile: <https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/for-recruiters/class-profiles/>

Q: Is there anything you'd like our candidates to know regarding the admissions process?

A: Our application will be open on August 1st, 2020 for those who wish to apply to start the program in August 2021. Please be sure to check COVID related application information here: <https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/programs/full-time-mba/admissions/covid-19/>, as well as our admission process and application guide here: <https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/programs/full-time-mba/admissions/mba-application-guide/>

Q: Any tips for Israeli applicants considering applying to your school?

A: *The decision to apply to business school is an important one. Do your research! The most successful Johnson applicants are those who can demonstrate how they'll fit into our community and how Johnson's curriculum matches their professional ambitions.*

Q: Can you tell us more about funding – scholarship/fellowship options in your school?

A: *We provide partial scholarships to a substantial percentage of our students. Merit-based scholarships are awarded without regard to citizenship. If a student is selected to receive a scholarship it will be included in their admission decision notification. Over 35 percent of Johnson students receive scholarship assistance. Merit Scholarship recipients are selected by an Admissions Scholarship Committee. The same criteria are used to determine merit as are used to evaluate applicants for admission: demonstrated leadership and interpersonal skills, prior academic performance, exam scores, the range and depth of work experience, writing skills, interpersonal*



skills, extracurricular and community involvement, recommendations, previous achievements, focus and goals.

Q: Can you share some information about partners who are joining the student- Employment options for him/her? What are the visa requirements?

A: We have an active family and partner community at Johnson. We issue dependent visas so that students can bring their spouse and children with them to Ithaca. We also have a very active partner and family group called Joint Ventures that connects families:

<https://johnson.campusgroups.com/jv/home/>