



Interview with INSEAD 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 three fully-integrated campuses in Europe, Asia and the Middle East, and over 80 different nationalities in the classroom, no other business school offers such a multicultural experience. The accelerated 10-month curriculum develops successful, thoughtful leaders and entrepreneurs who create value for their organisations and their communities. Our alumni often say that their year at INSEAD was life-changing.

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

A: Interviews will take place virtually this year. Applicants can take the online GMAT which is considered as being equivalent to GMATs taken in test centres.

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: Safety measures are in place so that face-to-face teaching can continue when possible. Online options are also available for students that may not be able to attend in person.

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: There is no dominant culture at INSEAD. The atmosphere is inclusive and collaborative. INSEAD MBA is intense and you can expect to be very busy. Consequently you will become adept at making decisions, prioritizing which will serve you well in post MBA roles.

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

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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: The admissions criteria give a good explanation of what INSEAD is looking for. Academic Capacity, leadership potential, international motivation and ability to contribute.

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

A: Be yourself, reflect on what you have learned and what you want to get out of the programme.

Q: What NOT to do in the admissions process?

A: There is no need to praise the school in the essays. It is important to explain what you have learned from both positive and negative experiences.

Q: Are later rounds worth considering?

A: INSEAD has four equally important application criteria that guide us in our selection of an exciting, dynamic and diverse student body. Gain insights into these criteria and how you can strengthen your MBA eligibility from Virginie Fougea, Director, MBA Recruitment and Admissions.

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

A: GMAT: all applicants are required to take a GMAT test as it provides us with a standardised way of evaluating candidates. While we do not have a minimum score required for admission, we advise candidates to aim for a score at or above the 70th-75th percentile for both the quantitative and verbal sections of the GMAT. For the Integrated Reasoning section, we recommend achieving a score of 6 or above. Please keep in mind, however, that standardised tests are just one of several admissions criteria. A high score does not guarantee admission, and a below average score does not eliminate a candidate.

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

A: The application process takes 10 weeks from the deadline that you apply to.

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

A: Reflect on leadership skills that you developed during your military service and be sure to include these in your essays.

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

A: INSEAD's goal is to recruit the best and brightest to join our school, regardless of their backgrounds or financial situations. If it has always been your dream to pursue a top-ranked MBA programme, we are here to help.



Over the last three years, we have doubled our scholarship funds which has enabled us to offer higher grants to more participants. There are over 90 types of scholarships available, which apply to both our campuses in Fontainebleau and Singapore.

Three categories of scholarships are available to you: need-based, non-need based (awarded based on nationality, professional background, leadership abilities, or any combination of these criteria), and spot scholarships which are awarded immediately without the need for applications based on exceptional admissions profiles.

Q: Can you share some information about partners who are joining the students.

A: Around 30 per cent of students bring partners to INSEAD, which makes for a large, vibrant community. We try to make sure that everyone benefits from the INSEAD experience in every possible way through the availability of on-campus support, activities and the INSEAD Partners' community. A year as a partner at INSEAD is also a great opportunity to experience new cultures and learn new languages.