



# Interview with Kellogg Admissions

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

**A:** We've intentionally designed the Kellogg learning experience to grow you personally and professionally – both in the specific ways you seek, but also in ways that will surprise you.

Between extensive global opportunities, challenging experiential learning projects, and a deeply customizable set of electives, a Kellogg education is shaped by real-world experiences that meaningfully evolve your capabilities as a business leader.

At Kellogg, we develop dynamic leaders who see possibilities others can't, and we equip you to stand out – for the rest of your career.

It means that in Kellogg's innovative curriculum, you'll learn how to identify new opportunities, catalyze teams to drive breakthrough results, and engage with world-class faculty – whether that is being closely mentored by a venture capitalist while designing a startup business plan, being led on a small-group trek to speak with policy leaders in Brazil, or having a fireside chat about board governance with a professor who formerly served as a Fortune 500 CEO.

This experience is grounded in what we're known for: our collaborative culture and distinctive community.

Finally, I must emphasize the incredible strength and responsiveness of our alumni network, which includes more than 65,000 business executives across the world. Alumni have a deep sense of pride for their Kellogg experience and a strong sense of loyalty to the school, which creates a wonderful pay-it-forward culture for our students.

Whether you are seeking insights about a particular industry, advice about interviewing at a certain company, or ideas for switching careers, you can expect to have access to incredible alumni support that will fuel career success for the rest of your life.

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



**A:** One of the silver linings of the COVID disruption is that virtual engagement actually meant broader reach for our admissions team as well as increased access and engagement with alumni and partners.

As we begin to enter a post-pandemic world we will continue leverage the benefit of virtual engagement.

Kellogg thrives in times that demand innovation and we are proud of how as a community we collaborated while continue to develop empathetic leaders.

Kellogg had the unique opportunity to be one of the first school's back in-person with hybrid when our MMM and 1Y programs started in summer of 2020. We were able to safely bring faculty and students together in the classroom while following strict social-distancing protocols.

We were able to continue hybrid modality in the fall and winter quarters.

Change has been a constant over the last year, as we continue to innovate our offerings while adhering to health and safety guidelines. This spring quarter, we are offering five distinct delivery modes for our courses including: in-person, hybrid, remote, remote plus in-person and students zoom together.

Collaboration is in Kellogg's DNA and we are constantly looking to improve. In our student-centric approach we are consistently integrating key learnings, when possible.

Kellogg is always innovating curriculum. This past year saw the addition of a new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Pathway along with the launch of MBAi, a new joint MBA degree with Kellogg School of Management and McCormick School of Engineering.

There has been a lot of interest in MBAi from applicants and employers. We are thrilled for this exceptional first class to begin this fall.

**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:** The main impact has been the shift to virtual engagement. Although as I mentioned in the previous question, in some ways this has been a positive silver lining. We will continue to leverage



virtual engagement and increased access to admissions. We are also planning on conducting all interviews this year virtually.

**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:** Collaboration is in Kellogg's DNA. Kellogg is focused on a student-centric approach allowing significant leadership opportunities for students across the school. In fact, COVID brought a unique student leadership opportunity as we created an Executive Committee made up of key senior leaders, deans and student leaders to monitor and adapt our operations throughout COVID.

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

**A** We're proud to be the only top business school with access to a major metropolitan city, but also the livability that comes with a campus town environment.

I constantly hear from students how this is an exceptional place to live – regardless of whether you are coming here solo, with a family, or from another country. Evanston is a very “urban suburb.” It stretches across four miles of Lake Michigan. It includes everything that you could want in a campus town: more than 200 diverse restaurants, a busy Big 10 athletics program, multiple beaches, local breweries, and many options for movies, theatre and museums.

The livability and accessibility of Evanston fosters a sense of community that creates stronger ties and bonds to your classmates, which results in stronger ties to your network for the rest of your life.

That said, Evanston residents have a lot of flexibility to travel elsewhere on a moment's notice. O'Hare International Airport is just 30 minutes away by car. Multiple train lines make it possible to get into downtown Chicago in 30 minutes. We even have a free inter-campus shuttle that will drop you off in the heart of the Chicago, next to the Magnificent Mile, Lake Michigan and the Museum of Contemporary Art.

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

**A:** 2020 was a disruptive year for all. However, it was also a year of resilience, collaboration and creativity. We are proud that 95% of Kellogg's 2Y 2020 class received job offers and 93% of the class accepted job offers within three months of graduating.



**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:** When we evaluate our applicants, a few qualities really stand out to us. These qualities help us understand if an applicant is ready to seize all of the opportunities that come with joining Kellogg. We look for people who:

- Can **motivate a team** to drive impact
- Are not afraid to **question the status quo** and seek non-obvious solutions
- Possess **creativity and talent** that is rooted in **self-awareness**
- **Seek diversity** in their networks and teams
- Are eager to **dive in and collaborate** with an engaged, ambitious community of peers

These are some of the traits that we really value. Our holistic application process allows us to understand how each person would bring these traits to Kellogg in his or her own unique way.

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

**A:** Get to know the schools where you'd like to apply, checkout our [Preview Kellogg website](#). Also you can learn more about our application process by attending virtual events. Also see who is a Kellogg alum in your network.

**A: What NOT to do in the admissions process?**

**A:** The admissions process is for us to get to you know you. You want to make sure you are not saying what you think schools want to hear, but rather staying authentic to yourself.

**Q: Are later rounds worth considering?**

**A:** The best time to apply is when you are ready to apply.

- There is also no risk to applying in the extended Round 3 and then again next year, if you aren't admitted.

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

**A:** Kellogg has a holistic evaluation process. Test scores are one component, but we are comprehensive and look at the whole person, experience, letters of recommendations, essays and our video essays are a great way to share with us even more about yourself.

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



**A:** I recommend applicants checkout our [Preview Kellogg website](#). We also have a variety of new content that will be coming this June including videos with current students and upcoming events where you can see the campus live ask questions to current students. I also recommend candidates reach out to current Kellogg students and alumni to learn about their experiences. A great place to start is to look at your own network and reach out to anyone that went to Kellogg.

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

**A:** Talk to current students - especially now when the ability to visit is limited by the pandemic, the students can give you great insight into classes, clubs, recruiting and what your time at Kellogg will look like. We have a wide array of clubs that you can reach out to and learn more. For your application, be yourself and help us understand your story. Why did you choose the path you did, and how will Kellogg help you reach the next phase of your career? The admissions team is familiar with typical career paths in Israel, including military service, but feel free to share any additional information that would help us understand your story.

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

**A:** All applicants are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships via their application. For most scholarships, there is nothing additional you need to do to be considered; there are a select few for certain programs that may require an essay as part of the application. If you are selected to receive a merit scholarship, you will be notified with your admissions decision. You can also work with our Financial Aid team on loan packages to fund your schooling; Northwestern has loan options with either a U.S. or an international co-signer.

**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 know that the decision to join Kellogg is a big decision not only for you but also for your partner or spouse. We have a wonderful spouse/partner community called [Joint Ventures](#), or JVs for short. Kellogg JVs are highly involved in the community and participate in clubs, events and can even sit in on certain classes. There is a dedicated staff member on our Student Life team that works with the JV Club on career opportunities, and the club itself as well as the Kellogg Kids club are great resources for navigating life in Evanston and Chicago. Visa requirements will depend on your unique situation, and our International Student Services team will work with you once admitted to identify the right documents for your partner and/or family.