



# Michigan Ross Q&A

---

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

**A:** Ranked #12 Full-time MBA Program in US in 2024 by US News

- Unparalleled breadth and depth of hands-on learning
  - MAP, Leadership Crisis Challenge, 6 student-led investment funds, [ZLI](#), Consulting Club, Community Consulting Club, Board Fellows program, CEOs course, Integrated Product Development, [Living Business Leadership Experience](#), more [examples](#)
- 9 of 10 business specializations ranked in top 10
  - US News ranks business schools in 10 different areas (marketing, accounting, finance, etc.) and Ross is in the top 10 in 9 of those areas. It's a strong, well-rounded education. The only school ahead of us in terms of number of areas in top ten is Stanford.
- 100+ top 10 ranked grad programs at University of Michigan
  - FTMBA students can take 10 of 57 credits outside of Ross and some students from other programs will be in Ross electives as well
  - 23 established dual degree options - most popular are with the School of Environment & Sustainability, School of Information, and School of Public Policy.
- #1 in alumni effectiveness
  - Alumni Network: Michigan has one of the largest living alumni networks in the world with over 67,000 Ross alumni and over 665,000 U-M alumni worldwide.
- Ann Arbor consistently recognized as one of the best places to live in US
- Univ of Michigan grad + undergrad students = 51k → approximately 6,500 Jewish students at Michigan – 5,000 undergrads and 1,500 graduate students (per [UM Hillel](#))
- [Maize & Jew](#) student club at Ross

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

**A:** At Ross, we continually enhance our MBA program to address current global business challenges, with recent updates focusing on technology and sustainability. This year, we introduced new elective courses in AI and Machine Learning and a new concentration in [Environmental, Social, and Governance \(ESG\)](#), equipping students with strong foundations in sustainability, social impact, and administration.

We are also introducing new essays in this year's application, which is set to go live in July. We have three short answer essay questions to understand your fit with our MBA community. The first essay assesses your ability to thrive in our action-based learning environment and contribute to the learning experience. The second essay gives insight into who you are beyond your professional life, with four prompts to choose from to highlight your personal drivers and standout qualities. The third essay focuses on your



short-term career goals and how Ross will help you achieve them. Additionally, the optional statement is your space to address any gaps, academic outliers, or other aspects of your background that need explanation.

Our Application Requirements can be found [here](#).

**Q:** Given the ongoing conflict in Israel and the pro-Palestinian demonstrations on campuses worldwide, how will these factors impact admissions for prospective Israeli students? Additionally, how can you reassure Israeli students who may be worried about studying in your university in the current unstable and challenging situation?

**A:** We do not anticipate any changes to the admissions process for Israeli applicants due to the ongoing conflict. We understand testing may be a challenge in the current environment and will continue to offer the option to submit a Statement of Academic Readiness in lieu of a test score (see Section 3 [here](#)).

Ross acknowledges it has been a difficult time for our Jewish students and it remains our priority to create a space and culture where everyone feels safe. Students may refer to our [Ross Community Values](#) to gain a better understanding of our culture. Additionally, from the time students set foot on campus, DEI training takes place at Orientation and extends throughout their time at Ross. Faculty and staff work closely with student leaders, including the student-led MBA Council, to identify opportunities for dialogue and education, both proactively and in response to real-world events. Ross also has a dedicated Director of Student Wellness and Counseling and Psychological Services staff members. Throughout the next academic year, the Ross DEI Office will be working with key stakeholder, student groups, and experts to frame conversations and learning opportunities aimed at addressing hate and building capacity as an organization to center anti-hate practices.

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

**A:** Ann Arbor consistently ranks as a top college town. For students attending Ross with a family, the local area schools also provide a strong education. Ann Arbor is a lively, accessible and cosmopolitan college town with a diverse range of restaurants and entertainment options. You can learn more about Ross and Ann Arbor through these virtual tours:

- [Walking tour of the campus](#)
- [Virtual campus tour](#),
- [24 hours in Ann Arbor Guide](#)

Students can also visit the [Destination Ann Arbor](#) website, which will serve as a great general guide for Ann Arbor. All UM sports events can be found [here](#), too

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

**A:** A common misconception is that Ross has limited career opportunities in the Midwest. However, Ross and the University of Michigan enjoy a strong global brand



reputation. With over 67,000 Ross alumni and over 665,000 U-M alumni worldwide, our graduates succeed globally. Last year, over 75% of Ross graduates found opportunities on the East Coast, Chicago, or the West Coast, embodying our motto, "[Go Blue, Go Anywhere!](#)"

During their time at Ross, students will benefit from unparalleled support through the [Career Development Office](#) (CDO). The CDO engages with students months ahead of students stepping foot on campus to prepare them for internship recruiting across many different industries, functions and geographic locations. Professional clubs at Ross play an instrumental part in preparing our students professionally as well. This past year, our students received a starting \$175K median salary + \$27K bonus.

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

**A:** Be Authentic: Your application is a reflection of who you are. You want to represent your true self in all sections of the application. Admissions committees value genuine insights into your personality, values, and experiences. Avoid embellishing, misrepresenting, or underselling your achievements and activities. This takes time to craft, so give yourself ample time to complete your application.

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

**A:** We highly encourage international candidates to apply during Rounds 1 or 2 to allow for sufficient visa processing time.

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

**A:** All applicants are evaluated holistically and test scores are a part of that evaluation. We do not have a minimum test score, but our GMAT average is 719 and the middle 80% range is 670-760. These stats, along with our entire class profile can be found [here](#).

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

**A:** Here is a video with tips on how to impress the [Ross Admissions Committee](#). Here are additional suggestions for completing the application data and criteria.

- 1) **Focus on Your Resume:** Your resume is a critical component of your application since this is B-school. The most important thing is to keep it to one page. If you are putting information on your resume, you want to highlight key accomplishments rather than just responsibilities. Applicants effectively do this by quantifying their achievements with specific metrics (e.g., revenue generated, new clients added, cost savings). This helps the admissions committee understand your impact and skills. You can additionally use your resume to highlight leadership and accomplishments outside of your career.
- 2) **Be Authentic:** Your application is a reflection of who you are. You want to represent your true self in all sections of the application. Admissions committees value genuine insights into your personality, values, and experiences. Avoid embellishing,



misrepresenting, or underselling your achievements and activities. This takes time to craft, so give yourself ample time to complete your application.

- 3) **Balance Detail with Brevity:** While it is important to provide enough detail, be concise. Admissions committees review many applications, so clear and succinct information is appreciated.
- 4) **Highlight Unique Experiences:** Mention activities and hobbies that set you apart and demonstrate unique aspects of your personality. This can help make your application memorable.