

Will you be “CPA Ready” when you graduate?

The Illinois Board of Examiner’s Academic Requirements to take the CPA Exam can be met in 3 ways...

1. BS Degree in Financial Accounting - (5 years) individual planning will be needed to meet requirements
 - Bachelor’s Degree completed
 - 150 hours of college credit
 - 30 hours of Accounting course credit – only 3 credits may come from an Accounting internship
 - 24 hours of Business course credit
 - 3 credit hours of a course titled “Business Ethics” (ACC 236 or MKT 236)
 - 2 credit hours of research and analysis in accounting. This is imbedded in the Financial Accounting major required courses and must include 1 additional advanced course (ACC 330, 334, 336 or 337)
 - 2 credit hours of business communications credit (ENG 145A13 or BE 140 at ISU)

Completion of Advanced Electives (ACC 330, 334, 336, & 337) is STRONGLY URGED to maximize success on the exam

2. BS Degree & MPA or MSA in Accounting - (5 years) no additional requirements needed
3. BS Degree & MBA - (5 years) + requirements listed below
 - 30 hours of Accounting course credit – only 3 credits may come from Accounting internship credit
 - 2 hours of research and analysis in accounting

“CPA Ready”--Accounting Masters Degree at ISU

1. BS/MPA – 120 hours of undergraduate coursework and 30 hours of graduate coursework. Undergraduate degree is awarded upon completion of all undergraduate requirements – Bachelor of Science in Accountancy (BS). Graduate degree is awarded after completion of all graduate requirements- Master’s of Professional Accountancy (MPA)
 - Professional Accountancy Sequence – 30 credit hours
 - Accountancy & Information Systems Sequence – 30 credit hours
2. MSA - Complete a 4 year Bachelor’s degree in Accounting followed by a separate 1 year Master’s degree
 - Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) – 30 credit hours

Admission to BS/MPA or MSA programs

1. Apply for Graduate School Admission – Apply during senior year.
 - 2 application deadline options for the BS/MPA:

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| BS/MPA Spring Admission Deadline January 30 th |
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| BS/MPA Summer Admission Deadline June 30 th |
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When submitting an application, students must have earned 90 credit hours.

Selection for continuance in the BS/MPA program is competitive. Ask the undergraduate advisor for details

See Graduate advisor for MSA - GMAT & application deadlines

2. Take the GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) if applicable – www.mba.com
 - BS/MPA – taken either the summer before or during the fall of junior year - target score = 500 or better
 - MSA – taken after junior year – target score = 500 or better
 - **Waived if GPA of 3.4 or higher (due to COVID)**
3. Meet Minimum GPA/Grade Requirements for BS/MPA and MSA programs
 - BS/ MPA: 3.2 GPA over the last 60 semester hours
 - MSA: 3.0 GPA over last 60 semester hours
 - Meet with Graduate Director to learn more about MSA GPA/GMAT requirements

Contacts

Undergraduate Accounting Advisor (Last Name A-H): Gina Turton, COB 129 – 438-8385 – gmpaxso@ilstu.edu

Undergraduate Accounting Advisor (Last Name I-Z): Kathy Sims, COB 129 – 438-8385 – kesims@ilstu.edu

Graduate Director/Advisor: Dr. Jay Rich, COB 313 – 438-7040 - jsrich@ilstu.edu

GMAT- Graduate Management Admission Test

The Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) is a computer adaptive, standardized test that is designed to assess the qualifications of applicants for graduate study in business and management. The GMAT consists of four main sections—Analytical Writing Assessment, Integrated Reasoning, Quantitative, and Verbal. It does NOT measure your knowledge of business, job skills or specific content from your undergraduate course work.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I make an appointment to take the GMAT?

You may register and obtain detailed information online at www.mba.com.

How much does the GMAT cost?

The GMAT test registration fee is \$250 (USD) worldwide. A partial refund of \$80 (USD) will be issued in the event that a test is cancelled more than seven calendar days before the scheduled appointment. Forms of payment for online applications include credit or debit cards - VISA, MasterCard, American Express or JBC or check or money order for mailed in forms.

When is the GMAT available?

The GMAT is available, year-round, at test centers throughout the world. For a complete listing of the locations where and when the GMAT is offered in your area, go to the website.

It is possible to schedule your test within a few days of taking it, but popular dates (weekends and holiday breaks) book up quickly. Consider the admissions deadlines of the schools to which you're applying, then call early to increase your chances of getting your preferred test date at the center most convenient to you. **The exam may not be taken more than one time in any calendar month and at least 31 days after the last attempt.**

How does someone with a disability take the test?

The GMAT program is committed to serving test takers with disabilities and will provide accommodations for those who meet certain eligibility criteria and properly document their request. Go to the website for further information.

How do I send my scores to ISU?

Your basic test registration fee covers the release of your Official Score Report to up to five graduate schools selected by you on the day of the test.

How do I prepare for the test?

Understanding the format, practicing sample questions, and reviewing one section at a time will help you arrive fully prepared on the day of your exam. To help you prepare, mba.com offers the [GMATPrep® test preparation software](#), free to registered users. Available as a downloadable application or as a CD-ROM, GMATPrep simulates the actual test experience by using retired questions from previous GMAT exams. Related study materials are available for purchase at the [mba.com store](#).