

Carrie SmealMBA: Hello! Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat. We've got students and the Admissions Team with us today. What questions would you like us to answer today? I'm Carrie.

Carrie SmealMBA: Hello Harish! Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat. We've got students and the Admissions Team with us today. What questions would you like us to answer today?

HarishAgarwal: Hi Carrie. I am reapplying for fall 2009.

Carrie SmealMBA: Great - good to hear from you. What questions do you have?

HarishAgarwal: I had a feedback session regarding my 2008 application during June. I was told I could just submit my essays and would not have to submit other documents again.

HarishAgarwal: In the new application that I have started. I have no reference to the previous one. Is this okay?

Carrie SmealMBA: Harish. You don't submit transcripts again, and if you'd like to use the same recommendation letters, that's fine as well unless you have updates or others you'd prefer. You'll want to do the essays in this year's application. Be sure to use the reapplication code, which we can provide for you if you don't have it.

HarishAgarwal: Ok thank you. I have received the reapplication code but I have not been asked to enter it yet.

Carrie Smeal MBA: It should ask you at the end when it requests payment.

HarishAgarwal: ok

HarishAgarwal: Another question: I have retaken GMAT and compared to the score with which I had applied earlier, there is marginal improvement. Am I expected to explain the reasons for only making marginal improvement?

Mike SmealMBA: Harish: Hello! I also took the GMAT twice and had a small improvement the second time. You shouldn't have to explain anything on that score - it's great that you were able to improve.

HarishAgarwal: Thank you Mike!

Mike SmealMBA: You're welcome!

HarishAgarwal: Regarding recommendations I have a question about the career level of the recommenders. One of my recommenders is at a fairly high level at the organization but had voluntarily agreed to provide me recommendations. Is this ok? Or is it preferred to get recommendations from only my immediate team leads and managers?

Mike SmealMBA: Harish: The key to recommendations is to get them from people you have worked with directly or that know you well. The title or level of the recommender isn't really important at all - what matters is that the information they can provide comes from having worked with you personally.

HarishAgarwal: Ok.. thank you.

Mike SmealMBA: You're very welcome!

HarishAgarwal: Question on Essays: During my feedback session in June I came to know about the limitations of my essays and application. This year the essay questions have changed a bit. Will the admission committee consider my previous essays when evaluating my application?

Mike SmealMBA: Harish: The admissions team will be looking at your new essays primarily - the only thing they might do regarding your old essays is to look for improvement from year to year and give you credit for having worked to improve your skills.

Mike SmealMBA: Of course, you should take their advice from last year and work to improve! :)

HarishAgarwal: ok.. I understand.

HarishAgarwal: And that was my final question for now. Thank you very much for answering my queries.

Carrie Smeal MBA: You bet, Harish. Best wishes.

Mike SmealMBA: Best of luck Harish! Let us know if you have any other questions.

HarishAgarwal: Thank you, Bye.

MehulPathak: Hi Everyone...

Dave N SmealMBA: Hello Mehul!

MehulPathak: Good afternoon

Mike SmealMBA: Hello Mehul - sorry about the chat site confusion!

Jamie Smeal MBA: Hello! Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat. Mehul!

Mike SmealMBA: We were wondering where everyone was. :)

MehulPathak: hey Mike... no issues

MehulPathak: We were just wondering how come no one from adcom turned up... because all of us knew that Smeal Adcom is extremely punctual

MehulPathak: by the way Happy ThanksGiving to all of you...

Mike SmealMBA: Indeed they are! So now that you're here, what questions do you have that we can help you with?

MehulPathak: hope you have a great week coming in too...

MehulPathak: I have already applied to Smeal...

Mike SmealMBA): Thank you for the Thanksgiving wishes - this week we have a nice break from classes to give everyone some time to catch up.

Jamie Smeal MBA: Hello, Kerean! Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat.

KereanPovich: Hello everyone.

KereanPovich: Just spent some time in the wrong "chat room".

Bronte SmealMBA: Hi there. Welcome to the chat room - sorry about the confusion!

Mike SmealMBA: Hello Kerean - we heard about the chat room mixup. Sorry about that!

KereanPovich: No Prob.

VivekAhuja: Hello everyone

KereanPovich: So, what did I miss :)

Jamie Smeal MBA: Hello, Vivek! Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat.

Mike SmealMBA: Kerean: Actually very little. We've only had one person come to this chat room - we were wondering where everyone was.

Dave N SmealMBA: Hello All! Welcome to the Smeal MBA last minute application chat. Let us know what questions you have.

MehulPathak: ok.. Mike can I go ahead with my question....

MehulPathak: I just did not interrupt because we had to welcome couple of our friends

VivekAhuja: As a re-applicant from last year, I have just submitted the new essays, updated resume, new GMAT score and recommendations as part of the application. Am I required to re-send my application documents?

Mike SmealMBA: Mehul: Go ahead and ask away - there are a number of us ready to answer your questions, so feel free to send them to the chat any time.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Vivek-if you've already submitted this year's application, we have everything. If I'm not mistaken, you did already submit this year, right?

MehulPathak: ok...

MehulPathak: I had already applied to Smeal...got interview call also... and done with interview as well.

MehulPathak: my interview was with Carrie .. last week and it was wonderful talking to her

MehulPathak: I am mainly here to understand how in detail the admission procedure at Smeal works...

VivekAhuja: @ Carrie: yes..I have submitted my online application...tried to get in touch with the admission committee to confirm for my admission documents but got no response for that

MehulPathak: so request you to keep highlighting about the decision making process while answering questions

Carrie Smeal MBA: I believe we're ok - I'll ask to confirm documents while we're online here.

VivekAhuja: Thanks Carrie

KereanPovich: So, if I were to submit my app before the deadline does that mean I can get the interview etc. done earlier?

Mike SmealMBA: Mehul: Well, regarding the decision process, your application is assessed in its entirety. There are four major criteria that, when considered together, will help evaluate potential for success. The criteria are 1) academic ability, 2) work experience, 3) leadership skills, and 4) fit with the Smeal MBA program. No specific parameter is weighed more than the other.

Dave N SmealMBA: Kerean- Yes, if you submit your application before the deadline, and you are invited to the interview, you would be able to do it earlier.

JimmyVarghese: Finally!!

Jamie Smeal MBA: Hello, Jimmy! Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat. What questions would you like us to answer today?

Dave N SmealMBA: Welcome Jimmy!

Mike SmealMBA: Welcome Jimmy!

Bronte SmealMBA: Hi Jimmy!

JimmyVarghese: Thank you Dave.

KereanPovich: Thanks.

JimmyVarghese: had a good time interacting with other prospective students though.

Dave N SmealMBA: No problem Kerean. Are there any other questions we can answer for you?

MehulPathak: Thanks Mike.... I also wanted to understand in terms of timelines...as in... how long it takes to call for interview..how long it takes to revert after interview... scholarship and admission decision arrive together? etc...

rajatnagar: Hello Everyone! Finally I could get in this room..

Jimmy: How can we help you today?

Dave N SmealMBA: Welcome Rajat. Sorry about the mix up with the old chat room.

Bronte SmealMBA: Hi! Welcome to the chat - sorry about the confusion!

Jamie Smeal MBA: Rajat - sorry about the chat room mixup.

rajatnagar: It alright Dave, Thanks for taking time to answer our questions..

rajatnagar: Hey I wanted to ask about the transcripts..

rajatnagar: I will be uploading my transcripts in the electronic format..

MehulPathak: i got my interview call just in a week's time...does that mean it was before my application was reviewed or it was after my application review

Carrie Smeal MBA: Mehul - we try to make the timeline as tight as we can. If you submitted by Dec. 1 then you'd have full process and decision by Jan. 31. But within that timeline, we generally do interview invites within 2-3 weeks and have decisions within 2-3 weeks following interviews.

JimmyVarghese: Hi Bronte, I'm almost done with my application but I think I have a small problem- Since my graduation was taught in English, I was under the assumption that TOEFL did not apply to me. But I realized that I was wrong there... Can I still be considered for the 1st deadline if I can submit my TOEFL score by Dec 7th??

JimmyVarghese: the rest of my applications are complete.

Dave N SmealMBA: Rajat- You can load the transcripts electronically online, but you still need to send to copies via mail to the Smeal Admissions team.

MehulPathak: Hey Carrie - Thanks for your answer... we are meeting again in just a week's time... after the interview last week

rajatnagar: Can I get photocopies of my transcripts verified and attested by a notary and send it by mail?

Carrie Smeal MBA: Mehul - We review applications before interview decisions are made.

MehulPathak: actually I registered for this chat beforeli attended my interview... so by now you have already answered most of my queries in my interview

Dave N SmealMBA: Rajat- the copies need to be official transcripts. You cannot use photocopies even if they are verified and stamped by a notary.

KereanPovich: I have completed my app but have been waiting on my recommenders. I told them the deadline was Dec. 1st. So they have naturally not started completing it as of yet. Do you suggest I wait for them to get done before submitting?

Bronte SmealMBA: Jimmy: If you can get your TOEFL score in as soon as possible (and by the 7th December), then the School will review your application as soon as they can...

rajatnagar: Thanks Dave. But my university issues one copy of marksheets only. So, I have just one original copy. How do I send the transcripts then?

JimmyVarghese: Bronte, will that still make me eligible for the 1st Dec deadline?

Wenxing: finally...in. It's Wenxing

JimmyVarghese: Hi Wenxing... good you could join us here.

Jamie Smeal MBA: Hello, Wenxing! Welcome to the chat room? What question do you have today?

Mike SmealMBA: Kerean: You can submit your application without the recommendation letters, but we can't review it without them, so it doesn't help you much. Unfortunately, you need those rec. letters!

Carrie Smeal MBA: Yea! Glad to have you here Wenxing!

Scott SmealMBA: Vivek I wanted to let you know I checked your file and we do have everything we need from you at this time.

Dave N SmealMBA: Hello Wenxing!

Wenxing: Hello Jamie, and everyone~~

Bronte SmealMBA: Jimmy, the admissions team can't guarantee that you'll be eligible for the Dec 1 deadline, but they will do everything they can to see if you can make it

Mike SmealMBA: Hello Wenxing!

Jamie Smeal MBA): Hello Wenxing! Glad to have you here.

Wenxing: Hi Dave and Mike

KereanPovich: OK and what I expected. No biggie...I will just wait and suspect I have to send them reminders anyway :)

Dave N SmealMBA: Rajat- I am checking on an answer for you, it will take a moment.

Mike SmealMBA: Kerean: I remember when I got my rec. letters - I had to do a lot of reminding. :)

KereanPovich: So far, I have too and since it is the same people, I am use to it and don't mind it :)

VivekAhuja: Thanks Scott. Appreciate your quick confirmation

Wenxing: Jamie, is there any specific request on the IELTS?

Wenxing: such as scores in each part

Dave N SmealMBA: Rajat- just send one official copy and one photocopy. Although we don't normally do this, it can be an exception for your case.

rajatnagar: No problems Dave, I'll wait. One more question. I have taken IELTS exam instead of TOEFL (Couldn't get the desired dates for TOEFL) For now can I upload the electronic copy of my IELTS scores by the time official scores reach the university?

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing – 7.0 for total.

JimmyVarghese: Bronte, will IELTS suffice instead of TOEFL?

rajatnagar: Thanks Dave.

JimmyVarghese: If my understanding is correct TOEFL is preferred.

KereanPovich: It appears some people are concerned about meeting the Dec 1 deadline. What kinds of things would you say are the "biggies" that would result in your missing the deadline after you have submitted your app.? For example, what if one school does not send your transcript and you don't know about it until after you submit your app?

Wenxing: I see. thanks. Then how should I deal with my transcript? upload photocopy or send original paper copy?

Dave N SmealMBA: Rajat- Yes. You can load that until we receive the official scores.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - TOEFL is preferred but IELTS is also acceptable. We just started accepting it as a University last year.

rajatnagar: Thanks Dave. You have been very helpful..

Dave N SmealMBA: Rajat- Is there anything else I can answer?

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing - you can upload the photocopy of your transcript, but you still need to submit the hardcopy one.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Kerean-once you submit for the deadline, we try to notify you if there are still pieces missing, and review your application as soon as we receive them all.

Wenxing: Jamie, when shall I submit the hardcopy? Upon admission or with the whole application package?

rajatnagar: Ya Dave.. One more clarification. So, if I submit my transcripts and IELTS score electronically, and the actual copies reach by mail a few days later, will I still be considered for the Dec 1 deadline?

KereanPovich: Thanks, Carrie.

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing - you need to submit it with the whole application package.

Mike SmealMBA: tanushree: Welcome to the Smeal MBA Program online chat. What questions would you like us to answer today?

Wenxing: I see, Jamie. Then what's your address for IELTS score?

JimmyVarghese: Bronte, this is a specific question: I have heard about the so-called category "Indian IT Male"... and that for a candidate in this category, it is harder to get an admission. I fall under this category. But I have an opportunity to work fulltime with an NGO. If I choose the opportunity, I will have at least 6 months experience in an NGO before fall '09... would such an experience help in making my profile more interesting for the Adcom??

Wenxing: same with the mailing address for other application materials?

Dave N SmealMBA: Rajat- Yes. As long as the transcripts and scores have been sent electronically, and you are arranging for the mailing, it will be okay if it is a couple days after the deadline.

Jamie Smeal MBA): Wenxing The address is the below: MBA Admission office, 220 Business Bldg. University Park, PA 16802

rajatnagar: Thank you Dave. You have been very helpful. I appreciate it.

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing - Yes, I believe so.

Wenxing: got it. thank you.

Dave N SmealMBA: I'm glad I could clear up your questions, Rajat.

Bronte SmealMBA: Jimmy, Carrie will help you out with that one in a moment

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - if that NGO experience is esp. relevant for you, definitely highlight in your essays/application.

tanushree\_6: Hello Mike, I wanted to know what specifics should be considered while writing essays to be considered as a fit for Smeal

Wenxing: And do you prefer recommendations from professional to academic?

Bronte SmealMBA: Most of the students about 4.5 years of work experience here, which I find helps with the classroom discussions

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing - The admission office would absolutely prefer recommendations from professional.

VivekAhuja: Of the track I had one important question I wanted to clarify. Penn State has not been ranked by Business week this time. Any particular reasons? I have been in touch with few students at Smeal but have not yet received a satisfying response.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - I do understand your concern about categorization. And to some degree, everyone is compared with the many groups they represent - from geography to background to major to academics to industry, etc. So there are lots of elements to be considered. Each individual is considered both in comparison and independently based on their fit.

Mike SmealMBA: tanushree: The essays are used to get to know you during the application process, so, with that in mind, the most important thing is that you let yourself come through in your writing. Use personal stories and background to give the admissions team an impression of who you are, not just how well you can write and use complex language.

Wenxing: Jamie- Even if the academic one could show effective leadership?

Mike SmealMBA: Vivek: The BusinessWeek ranking is something we've been talking about a lot here. We are always ranked in the second tier, but this past year we didn't have enough of alumni respond to the online BW survey (50% have to respond and we only had roughly 30%). Unfortunately, this means that BW can't include us in the rankings for this year.

Dave N SmealMBA: If there is anyone in the chat room that we've missed, please let us know if you have any questions that have not been answered yet.

tanushree\_6: Thanks, actually, I am currently a research fellow and thus have a background in academic research. That is why I was particularly concerned about suitability of my experience and background

Mike SmealMBA: tanushree: There are a number of students in my class who have strong academic and research backgrounds and are excellent in class - they bring a very unique perspective and help those of us with stronger business backgrounds to see things in new ways. I definitely think you can fit well in the program with that kind of experience.

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing - The thing is, the admission office would like to learn about you in professional settings. However, if the recommendation is the example of your organizational behaviors, it would be considered as one from professional.

tanushree\_6: Moreover, I have already dispatched my supplemental materials but want to include one more recommendation other than the two already registered online. with only a few days in hand, is there a way I can submit my third recommendation which is from my professor by fax or online

VivekAhuja: Thanks for the information Mike. So what are the university's next steps in order to overcome the impact as it might have a negative effect on reputation of Penn State with employers?

Bronte SmealMBA: Tanushree - one of my team members also comes from a strong research background, and he is definitely a valuable addition to the team!

JimmyVarghese: Carrie - As my questions further on that subject is very much specific to myself, can I have a contact email so that I could follow up that discussion offline?

Wenxing: I see. Then how can I get scholarships? Is there any certain criteria for the GA?

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing - We award scholarships and assistantships based on merit: leadership potential, work experience, GMAT score, and undergraduate GPA are the main factors taken into consideration when determining financial awards.

Scott SmealMBA: If anyone does not get all their questions answered feel free to email me @ ssylves@psu.edu after the chat, later tonight or next month. Whenever you have a question.

tanushree\_6: Thank you for a comforting response to my background questions

rajatnagar: Thank you Scott for sharing your email id.

Mike SmealMBA: Vivek: That's a great question, and it's something myself and my classmates are really concerned about. Unfortunately, it will have a negative impact and our reputation will suffer because of it. However, we know that we have a strong program and are continually improving so the next time BW does a survey, we can get back into the ranking and rise back to the top.

JimmyVarghese: Thank you Scott... I'll definitely mail you on that... :)

Wenxing: Jamie- Is it essential to be outstanding in all the aspects for financial awards?

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy-happy to help. Scott's address or smealmba@psu.edu which is checked daily and we have students as well as ourselves answering questions continuously.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - also like the Facebook site - nice job!

Mike SmealMBA: As for what we are doing currently to improve, we are adding a business case capstone class to the second year of the program, increasing the global immersion locations, and stepping up our recruiting events.

JimmyVarghese: :-)

JimmyVarghese: nobody joined me though... :-(

Vjuneja: @Carrie, in the online application, we have to submit transcripts from every institution attended. Do we have to also include transcripts from High School apart from Undergraduate?

Wenxing: sorry for that Jimmy, but I don't use facebook

Carrie Smeal MBA): [Smeal MBA Class of 2011 Prospectives:](http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?sid=7a2cd5887139dcabfdb918160f2e5ad4&refurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fs.php%3Fref%3Dsearch%26init%3Dq%26q%3Dsmeal%2B2011%26sid%3D7a2cd5887139dcabfdb918160f2e5ad4&gid=33785174845)  
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?sid=7a2cd5887139dcabfdb918160f2e5ad4&refurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fs.php%3Fref%3Dsearch%26init%3Dq%26q%3Dsmeal%2B2011%26sid%3D7a2cd5887139dcabfdb918160f2e5ad4&gid=33785174845>

JimmyVarghese: Carrie.. I would appreciate if some of the current students and Adcom members join the community... and we could have an ongoing discussion/clarification forum...

Carrie Smeal MBA: Wow - that was long.

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing - You do not need be outstanding in all the aspects; however, the more competitive your application is, you would position yourself better, I believe.

JimmyVarghese: There are other b-schools who follow that approach

Carrie Smeal MBA: You bet. We've looked and didn't want to jump in too early - happy to join anytime.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Bronte and I just joined.

JimmyVarghese: I'd leave the moderation to you all then... :-)

Wenxing: Thanks Jamie. All your information helps a lot.

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing Ȃ My pleasure

Dave N SmealMBA: Jimmy- I joined the group! We have taken this approach in years past. It was a great place for prospective students to meet and discuss all things Penn State related.

tanushree\_6: Sorry but my question regarding the submission of a third recommendation has not been answered yet, is there a way my recommender can submit it by fax or online as only a few days left before De 1 deadline.

Wenxing: And thanks again, Scott, for helping me login

Bronte SmealMBA: Jimmy - nice work with the group - that's an excellent idea...

Vjuneja: Jimmy, I will join the community as well

Vjuneja: Thanks for creating it

JimmyVarghese: I'll give all of the PSU members moderation rights... you could take it forward from there

Scott SmealMBA: You bet Wenxing, sorry for the hassle

VivekAhuja: @ Mike: Thanks for pointing out the causes and measures. Ill sync up with you sometime to get some more info on the Business case Capstone class. :)

Wenxing: It's ok. You're not responsible for that. :)

Mike SmealMBA: tanushree: sorry about that - I think I missed the original question! Could you ask it again please?

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - be sure to keep it centered around the prospective candidates - far more credibility there than with the Admissions Staff!

JimmyVarghese: done!

JimmyVarghese: okies... I hope to get in more prospective students there...

Mike SmealMBA: Vivek: You're welcome! And great questions - we're very concerned about that here too.

tanushree\_6: I have already dispatched my supplemental materials but want to include one more recommendation other than the two already registered online. With only a few days in hand, is there a way I can submit my third recommendation which is from my professor by fax or online

Wenxing: Jimmy- I will join in later, starting my facebook.

Wenxing: And thanks for all your efforts.

Carrie Smeal MBA: tanushree\_6 - if you'd like to submit a third as a supplement, you can either fax it or email it to [smealmba@psu.edu](mailto:smealmba@psu.edu).

rajatnagar: Thanks everyone. You all have been great help in making things more clear and in giving a better idea about the admissions process. Thanks much.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Fax is: 814-863-8072

JimmyVarghese: Carrie- About TOEFL again... the earliest date available for me is 6th December. I'm still trying to find the earliest available date for IELTS. My question is if I get a date before the Dec 1st deadline for IELTS, should I opt to write it?

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - I'd go with IELTS if you can do that one earlier, that's fine.

VivekAhuja: Another question. Have we seen any changes in the application trends from previous year owing to the current economic crisis.

JimmyVarghese: or is it preferable to have TOEFL despite the deadline?

Mike SmealMBA: Rajat: You're welcome!

Vjuneja: Carrie... In the online application, we have to submit transcripts from every institution attended. Do we have to also include Transcripts from High School apart from Undergraduate?

JimmyVarghese: oh okies Carrie.. so I'll follow the-earlier-the-better approach

rajatnagar: That's what I also did Jimmy.. But IELTS takes 13 calendar days to give the results.

Scott SmealMBA: Vivek I can take that one. We have and we haven't. Applications started are at about the same place as this time last year, with the only major difference being a larger percentage of those applications being from Domestic applicants

MehulPathak: Hi Everyone - Thanks very much for your prompt responses. Sincerely appreciate your efforts.

tanushree\_6: Thanks Carrie, Is there a way to know if my supplemental materials and scores have reached Smeal

KereanPovich: Thanks, Scott - I wondered about that too.

rajatnagar: i gave IELTS on 8th Nov, got results on 21st. So you have to keep that in mind. i don't know how long TOEFL takes to give the results

MehulPathak: Though I am done with my interview, this forum helped me a lot to learn more about Smeal MBA.

KereanPovich: Are the interviews done by student, alumni or adcom staff?

Scott SmealMBA: It could just be early in the process as well, we should know more further down the road

JimmyVarghese: Oh Rajat... if that is the case, I might as well not be able to meet the 1st Dec deadline for my TOEFL score.

Stacey Smeal MBA: Kerean--the interviews are done by admissions staff

VivekAhuja: Thanks Scott. As an international student, should I have any concerns due to more Domestic applications this year?

Mike SmealMBA: Mehul: You are very welcome! If there's anything else we can help you with, don't hesitate to ask!

Bronte SmealMBA: Mehul - no worries, glad we could help

rajatnagar: IELTS is a pen and paper test so it takes time..

Carrie Smeal MBA): Vivek-great question. I'll chime in also. Many people will decide this is a great time to go back. But at the same time, many people are choosing to stay in roles they already have rather than making the educational investment. Seeing both sides.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Vivek-actually, it's fine because we can always increase class size a bit and will only help the process.

MehulPathak: Sure. Thanks

JimmyVarghese: Carrie- In UK universities, TOEFL scores are waived, if we get a certificate from our institution certifying that the 4year graduation course was completely instructed in English. Would such a similar certificate suffice for the moment?

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - afraid not. It's a Penn State University requirement, and the graduate school won't be able to admit someone without the english proficiency exam.

tanushree\_6: Carrie, as you answered to Vivek's question, is there a preference given to domestic students over international students

JimmyVarghese: Thanks Carrie for the information.

VivekAhuja: thats some good news to me Carrie. So we have a flexible class size every year. That could help out the impact of increased domestic applications if any.

tanushree\_6: Also how can I track if my transcripts and scores have reached Smeal

Scott SmealMBA: tanushree what is your full name and I can check on those transcripts right now

tanushree\_6: Scott, my full name is Tanushree Jain

Scott SmealMBA): Tanushree I have your full transcripts package that you sent in.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Tanushree-definitely not. We look for candidates from all over the world - 20 countries represented this year. We are about 65% US and 35% international each year, and would like to extend our reach globally.

JimmyVarghese: I hope I've not missed this point: regarding the transcripts, when do we have to send the two original transcripts?? after the interview process??

Scott SmealMBA: Jimmy, No you need to get them sent in before you can be granted an interview

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - they should be sent with the application - hopefully arriving before the deadline.

tanushree\_6: And the GMAT and TOEFL scores from the respective services

Scott SmealMBA: Tanushree - yes I have those as well

JimmyVarghese: Oh, I was under the impression that the scanned copy would suffice to meet the deadline.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy-We can begin review but can't finalize or offer the interview until we have everything.

rajatnagar: Me too Jimmy. Now FedEx is the only option. It will deliver the package in 3 days :)

tanushree\_6: Thank you so much for the help everyone, the chat was really helpful and I could sort my queries well for now.

JimmyVarghese: I'll have to rush to my university first I guess...

Mike SmealMBA: You're welcome Tanushree! Please let us know if you have any other questions!

Bronte SmealMBA: Glad you could make it to the chat room Tanushree!

tanushree\_6: Sure Mike, Thank you

JimmyVarghese: Dave, wouldn't the transcripts of this chat be available on the PSU website like last years?

Wenxing: Oh, about the transcripts, is it acceptable that I submit them in sealed envelopes by myself?

tanushree\_6: Thank you, Bronte.

Dave N SmealMBA: Jimmy- The transcripts will be available on the website within the next week or so.

Carrie Smeal MBA: All - we have extended the chat until 3:30 today since we had technical difficulties - a few more questions are welcome!

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing - Ideally the transcripts are supposed to be sealed by your school, but it would be okay to be sent by yourself.

JimmyVarghese: I would like to take this opportunity to thank the PSU team for the terrific informative content put up on your website. The podcasts of the webinars were extremely helpful.

Carrie Smeal MBA: That's excellent, Jimmy. Glad to know they're helpful. Any favorites?

Wenxing: I see. They were sealed by the school. Thanks Jamie.

JimmyVarghese: Yes, Carrie... "Avoiding Common Admission Mistakes"

Wenxing: Well, thank you all, Smeal MBAs! And Jamie, thanks for answering; Scott, thanks for helping. See you!

Jamie Smeal MBA: Wenxing – You're welcome!

Bronte SmealMBA: No worries - best of luck!

JimmyVarghese: Since I'm applying for the 1st time ever, It really helped make me feel more confident about my applications.

Carrie Smeal MBA: Jimmy - my favorite, as well! Stacey did a great job there.

Dave N SmealMBA: I'm glad you were able to get your questions answered, Jimmy. Does anyone else have anything else?

JimmyVarghese: I think I'm done... Thanks once again... hope to interact more with you at Facebook...

JimmyVarghese: All, have a great day!

Wenxing: Good luck!

JimmyVarghese: Good luck to too... bye...

rajatnagar: Thanks everyone. Have great day ahead..

Mike SmealMBA: You too Rajat!

VivekAhuja: I think I am also done with most of my clarifications. Would like you personally thank each one of you for taking out time for answering our questions. Hope to connect with the Penn state community soon.

Vjuneja: Thanks everyone...

Carrie Smeal MBA: You bet, Vivek. Best wishes!

VivekAhuja: and have a great thanksgiving..

Vjuneja: and Happy Thanksgiving!

Jamie Smeal MBA: Best luck, everyone! Thank you for joining us today.

Mike SmealMBA: Kerean: Any last questions before we head out?

Bronte SmealMBA: Best of luck everybody

Carrie Smeal MBA: Thanks for joining us and hope to see your application by December 1. Best wishes Kerean!