

Username	Message
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): 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?
ga	ga(Kate First Year): hi manyu09
manyu09	manyu09: Hi, I am an International Applicant from India, applying to the Full time MBA program
manyu09	manyu09: Hi Kate
ga	ga(Ravikiran 1st Year MBA): Hi Manyu09, I am Ravikiran from India, studying in first year MBA. What questions do you have for us ?
manyu09	manyu09: How many international applicants do you plan to take this year?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Hi Manyu09--Typically, our class is roughly two thirds domestic and one third international students. We expect to keep a similar ratio this year
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Our class sizes are usually about 85-100 students
manyu09	manyu09: Also, once the admission results are out, may I know the deadline by which would you want the Financial guarantee documents to be received
manyu09	manyu09: I am applying for the first round
manyu09	manyu09: when*
	Scott(Scott MBA Admissions):

Scott	Hi Manyu09. Ideally we would like to receive your financial guarantee documents with your application. However if you are admitted into the program you should get the documents to us as soon as possible afterwards, so not to slow your I-20 and Visa process.
manyu09	manyu09: I read on your website that, I could submit these documents once admitted.
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Manyu09 -yes, you can submit once admitted
manyu09	manyu09: May I know the month by when you require the documents. So, that I can plan accordingly.
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): No later than May 1st--and ideally, the sooner the better
manyu09	manyu09: ok
manyu09	manyu09: Also, does Smeal plan to tour India, is it possible to have a personal interview, or most interviews for International students are on phone
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Our associate dean was just visiting India last week! While we don't participate in the World Tour, we do offer webcam and telephone interviews for those who cannot interview live. Webcam interviews are a great way to connect if we can't meet candidates in person
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): What other questions can we answer today?
manyu09	manyu09: Do you have a preference for any specific undergrad background? Engineering or Business
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): We do not--we consider applicants from all undergrad backgrounds

ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): Hello Grace, welcome to the Chat Room. I'm Ana, how can i help you?
ga	ga(Ravikiran 1st Year MBA): Hi Grace83, welcome to the chat, I am Ravikiran studying in 1st year MBA. What questions do you have for us ?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Hi srs202--what questions do you have today?
grace83	grace83: Hi Ana...what is the average GMAT score of the current first-year class?
manyu09	manyu09: @Stacey, I have already sent my supplemental documents to Smeal. But, I still need to submit the application form. Do you need any specific information to match my documents to the application?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Manyu09--no, we just need the information that the application asks for
srs202	srs202: How long should my essay questions be?
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): Class of 2011 has an average score of 652
grace83	grace83: Thank you, Ana
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): srs202--we recommend that your essays are roughly one page
grace83	grace83: I have another question--do we have to stick with the concentration we put on our application?
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): no Grace, you can pick one that you are interested
manyu09	manyu09: I will try to send the financial guarantee documents in the month of December, will that be alright?
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): You are free to change your concentration if you are admitted

ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): manyu09--that will be fine
grace83	grace83: What are the most popular concentrations of current students?
manyu09	manyu09: Thank you Stacey.
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): you're welcome
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Grace83- We have several popular concentrations. The most popular concentrations are supply chain management, marketing and finance.
grace83	grace83: Thank you, Jingwen
srs202	srs202: I know this isn't application related, but I am very interested in Global Immersion. Where can students go? Does it cost any additional money?
grace83	grace83: What is the normal turnaround time for hearing about acceptance?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): grace83--for those who submit applications for the 12/1 deadline, we have a decision by January 31st. For the February 1st deadline, we have a decision by March 31st
ga	ga(Manisa 1st year): Hi srs202, for the class of 2011 we have 4 destinations: Chile, India, China, and San Francisco. The fee for global immersion is \$1700.
grace83	grace83: Thank you, Stacey
srs202	srs202: Thanks Manisa!
grace83	grace83: I see you require two letters of recommendation; can I submit a third one?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): grace83--you may, however, the first 2 will be considered official. We will accept the third and include it in your file.
srs202	srs202: Do you have a minimum GMAT score?

ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): Absolutely Grace. You can submit them online or by mail in a closed envelope
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): NO, Smeal does not have a minimum GMAT score, however the average GMAT for the 2011 class is 652
grace83	grace83: How much of a factor does one's GPA play into their acceptance?
manyu09	manyu09: AnaS, What is the range of GMAT score for the 2011 class ?
ga	ga(Manisa 1st year): Hi Grace- we consider your application as a whole. GPA is one of the factors.
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): The average is 652, range 590-730.
manyu09	manyu09: Thanks, AnaS
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): You are welcome manyu09
grace83	grace83: What is the percentage of women in the current class?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): grace83--29% of our class this year are women
srs202	srs202: Do I need to have an interview in order to be accepted into your program?
ga	ga(Manisa 1st year): srs202- yes, an interview is required.
grace83	grace83: Thank you, Stacey
grace83	grace83: I am planning on taking the GMAT again in January; can I resubmit my updated scores after I take it then?
	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): grace83--yes, you may. Just indicate on your application the date when you are re-taking the exam.

ga	
grace83	grace83: Thank you, Stacey
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): We can answer question about life at Penn State and any other issue you may be curious about.
grace83	grace83: This is not application-focused, but to the current students, what is the diversity like in the program?
grace83	grace83: Also, will I feel singled out if I was not an undergraduate business major?
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): We have a pretty diverse class (2011). This makes for a very interesting and enriching experience for us students. I have classmates from India, China, Thailand.
srs202	srs202: What if I cannot come to campus to do my interview? Are their other options?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): grace83--absolutely not--only about 1/3 of our students came from an undergraduate background in business
grace83	grace83: Ana, that sounds like a great opportunity to get to know other cultures!
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): srs202--yes, we offer webcam and telephone interviews
grace83	grace83: Thank you, Stacey. That's good to know.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Grace83- We have 30 international students all of us can gain a lot of knowledge of different countries and learn to do business with people from different areas. At the same time, we have diverse background of work and education.

ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): exactly, and we have nearly a 1000 cultural activities programed during the school year in Penn State.
grace83	grace83: Will we hear about financial aid rewards when we hear about acceptance into the program, or do financial aid decisions come at a different time?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): grace83-- some decisions are made at the time of admissions, others are made later in the process. We try to have most decisions out by April
ga	ga(Manisa 1st year): Grace-- I'm from Thailand and I have enjoyed the culture and the diversity of our classmates very much.
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): Hello Violet 99, my name is Ana
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Violet99!
Violet99	Violet99: Hi Ana and Jingwen.
Violet99	Violet99: I have a very competitive GMAT score as well as strong recommendations and an above average GPA. Do you offer Fee Application Waivers for strong candidates?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Violet99-- unfortunately, we do not offer fee waivers for strong candidates
grace83	grace83: Can some of the current first-year students talk about their internship search? How is it going?
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): Well Violet99, MBA admissions staff consider your application as a whole, so it's pretty good for you to have the best scores that you can get.

ga	<p>ga(Jingwen First Year):</p> <p>Grace73- Yes I think some of us have already got internship. I have got the internship as Supply Chain Management consultant in Dell.</p>
ga	<p>ga(Jingwen First Year):</p> <p>Grace 83- In searching internship, we can utilize great network of alumni and at the same time Career Service Office will give you a lot of great advices.</p>
srs202	<p>srs202: I have all my materials together except for one letter of recommendation. Can I submit my application now or do I have to wait for my recommender to mail me my final letter? I am afraid they will not get it to me by the deadline.</p>
ga	<p>ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Kathywangq!</p>
grace83	<p>grace83:</p> <p>Thank you, Jingwen...I'm glad to hear that Career Services plays such an integral role in helping students</p>
ga	<p>ga(AnaS First year MBA): srs202, you can submit your application but the Admissions staff will not review it until you have submitted all necessary materials</p>
ga	<p>ga(Manisa 1st year): Hi Kathywangq and bellevie, what questions do you have for us today?</p>
bellevie	<p>bellevie: Hi Manisa and all</p>
kathywangq	<p>kathywangq:</p> <p>Thanks, Manisa: I already submitted my application on line. I don't have a very high GMAT score but I have a great background of work experience. How much percentage that Smeal will look at their candiates?</p>

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Kathywangq- Admission Office will evaluate your application as a whole package. All application materials will be taken into account.
manyu09	manyu09: Thank you, for clarifying all my questions.
bellevie	bellevie: if I submit my application before deadline but my official transcript arrive late, will I be considered for that round?
srs202	srs202: So does that mean if my recommender submits my final letter after December 1st, I will not have my application reviewed until the February 1st deadline?
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): You're welcome manyu09. Good luck!
kathywangq	kathywangq: Thanks for the answer, Jingwen.
ga	ga(Manisa 1st year): bellevie: the admission considers the application on the rolling basis.
ga	ga(Manisa 1st year): So if your documents come in later than December 1st, the admission will review your application when all documents have arrived.
kathywangq	kathywangq: Second question: I had a telephone interview already with one of the admission officer in October. I did OK but not the best I could do. Right now, I am in USA travelling, if it is possible to have another campus interview?
bellevie	bellevie: thanks Manisa
Violet99	Violet99: Thank you all for your help. Have a great day.
ga	ga(Ravikiran 1st Year MBA): Good luck Violet99

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Kathy-You can schedule another meeting with Admission Office. But this one will not be substitute the formal interview you already had.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Kathy- You can come and meet with admission officers, but this will not be the second interview.
grace83	grace83: Are there any upcoming chats centered around life as a student, and the transition from the working world back into the student world?
kathywangq	kathywangq: OK. I understand. So it means that the first telephone interview decides the result, right?
kathywangq	kathywangq: Hi, Scott: My name is Qian Wang.
bellevie	bellevie: regarding the financial statement and visa document, can I submit when being admitted?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Kathy- Yes, the first interview is official one.
Scott	Scott(Scott Smeal MBA Admissions): Hi Qian. How are you? I see from your other questions you may be interested in an on campus visit. Would you like me to put you in contact with our Graduate Assistant in charge of on campus coordination of visits?
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): grace83, please go to our event web page and look for the scheduled events for the dates of our chat and webcast
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): bellevie-- you can submit your visa document with your application
	ga(Ravikiran 1st Year MBA):

ga	grace83: There will be an event in Spring, please go on the website and you could check the calendar.
grace83	grace83: Thank you, Ravikiran
bellevie	bellevie: Thanks Stacey. If I submit the visa document after Dec 1st, does my application still be reviewed or you will wait until you receive the document?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): bellevie--as long as your application package is complete, we will evaluate it (the visa application is not required to consider your application initially complete)
kathywangq	kathywangq: Hi, Scott: Yes, I would love to. I had one telephone interview in October that I hope that I can do a personal interview if it is possible including a campus visit. And I don't know how far the admission office evaluate my applications also.
bellevie	bellevie: thank you very much Stacey
bellevie	bellevie: do you have stats of the number of applications you receive until now?
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): kathywangq--we would love to have you visit, however, we will not do a 2nd interview if you have already interviewed
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): bellevie--as of now, our applications are comparable to last year's
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Hi Everyone--we have about 5 minutes left in the chat. Are there any final questions we can help you with?
bellevie	bellevie: thank Stacey. Could you please give some explanations about Principled Leadership?

ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): believe-- I'm going to let a student answer that question for their perspective
grace83	grace83: Not from me...thank you all very much for your help!
ga	ga(AnaS First year MBA): Best of lucks grace83
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Grace83- You're welcome!
ga	ga(Manisa 1st year): You're very welcome. Good luck with your application!
ga	ga(Ravikiran 1st Year MBA): believe, It should reflect what you believe in and your thoughts about it. For my essay answer, I related Leadership qualities and how it was enhanced by thoughtful, ethical values.
bellevie	bellevie: thank Ravikiran
ga	ga(Ravikiran 1st Year MBA): You are welcome, bellevie.
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): Our chat time is up for today, I want to thank everyone for joining us!
bellevie	bellevie: thank you all
ga	ga(Stacey Smeal MBA Admissions): If you have additional questions, we welcome you to contact us at smealmba@psu.edu
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Thank you Bellevie, best luck!
bellevie	bellevie: thank you all
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Kathy~
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): R u from China:)
kathywangq	kathywangq: I had a telephone interview already with one of the admission officer in October. I did OK but not the best I could do. Right now, I am in USA travelling, if it is possible to do anothe campus interview?
	kathywangq:

kathywangq	Hi! Jingwen. I do come from China. But I am in USA now.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Hi Kathy, since this is a private chat, I can answer this question based on my personal knowledge. If you want to hear more opinions, you can repost your question to the lobby:)
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): About the interview
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): You can actually schedule one with Scott
kathywangq	kathywangq: OK. Thanks. I also wondered that since only 10 days after I submitted my on-line application, one interview was done, I think the admission office may not evaluate my documents yet. Is that right?
kathywangq	kathywangq: Hi, Jingwen, Second personal interview is OK?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): no
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): I think admission officers have already reviewed your package then offered you an interview.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): But I still suggest come and visit us~
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Actually if you have any time, you can attend MBA for a Day, and spend a whole day with us:)
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): BTW, you have 3 options to get in touch with Smeal

ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): 1. Directly visit Admisison Officer
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): 2.Attend MBA for a Day
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): 3. Schedule a visit during which current students will take you out and share some opinions with you
kathywangq	kathywangq: OK. I am thinking about scheduling one formal campus visit with admission office if it is possible.
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Yes~They will welcome you!
kathywangq	kathywangq: Thank you so much for your answer. Do you have any suggestions about hotels nearby? Cheap ones?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): And since you're coming anyway, you can also schedule a campus visit when other students can bring you out for lunch:)
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): State college has a lot of cheap hotels. Some motels will only cost you \$50~
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): their location is really convinient.
kathywangq	kathywangq: Yes, that is what I need. Walking distance to the campus?
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): Nop~ But you can take bus~ Or, we can try to find someone to pick you up~
ga	ga(Jingwen First Year): About the campus visit you can discuss the details with Winston Tang, another Chinese candidate, I believe he will give you best support on any requirement. And, if you need me to tell him about you in advance, feel free to tell me.
	ga(Jingwen First Year): Individual Visit

ga	<p>If you can't make it to one of the scheduled MBA for a Day events, we can arrange an individual visit to the campus. We strongly suggest scheduling your visit on a day that you can observe an MBA class session in action, and you have time for lunch or coffee with one of our current students. Contact our office at visitsmealmba@psu.edu or call us at 814-863-0474 to schedule your visit.</p>
kathywangq	<p>kathywangq: I think I will be fine by taking a cab. Please put me in touch with Winston Tang. Thanks. My email address is kathywangq@gmail.com. My Chinese name is Qian Wang. Thanks, Jingwen. You are so helpful.</p>
ga	<p>ga(Jingwen First Year):</p> <p>Great to help you!</p>
ga	<p>ga(Jingwen First Year):</p> <p>I can keep your email and answer any of your questions. And please remember to contact through the visitsmealmba@psu.edu before you come</p>