

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL  
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE  
REQUEST FOR DECISION

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**PRESENTED BY:** Susan Detmer, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

**DATE OF MEETING:** June 17, 2021

**SUBJECT:** **Changes to Admissions Qualifications – Master of Business Administration Program**

**DECISIONS REQUESTED:**

*It is recommended:*

*That Council approve the change to admissions qualifications to the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program to allow either a minimum score of 500 on the GMAT, or completion of the MCAT and admission to the College of Medicine at USask, effective the 2022-23 admissions cycle.*

**PURPOSE:**

University Council has the authority to approve changes to admissions requirements degree-level programs. Senate confirmation is required for such changes.

**CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:**

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS) proposes a change to the admission requirements for the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program to allow completion of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), and admission to the UofS College of Medicine to be accepted in lieu of the requirement for a Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), with a minimum score of 500. Students entering the combined MBA/MD program are highly qualified and

**CONSULTATION:**

The academic programs committee reviewed the proposal for this program at its October 7, 2020, meeting and agreed that for students entering the combined MD/MBA program, the MCAT and admission to the College of Medicine demonstrate readiness for an intensive academic program like the MBA program.

**FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED:**

University Senate will be asked to confirm Council's approval of this change at its next meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. **Proposal for a changes to admissions requirements for the Master of Business Administration**



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Academic Programs Committee of University Council

**Copy:** Noreen Mahoney, Associate Dean of Students & Degree Programs, Edwards School of Business

**From:** Office of the Associate Dean, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

**Date:** September 30, 2020

**Re:** Proposed Changes to Admission Requirements for the Master of Business Administration

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The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS) considered a proposed change to the admission requirements for the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program to allow completion of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), and admission to the UofS College of Medicine to be accepted in lieu of the requirement for a Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), with a minimum score of 500.

The Graduate Programs Committee approved the change on September 8, 2020, and the CGPS Executive Committee approved the change on September 23, 2020.

Attached please find the proposal and supporting documents.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Clement at [kelly.clement@usask.ca](mailto:kelly.clement@usask.ca)

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Academic Programs Committee APC  
**From:** Debby Burshtyn, Chair - Executive Committee  
**Date:** September 24, 2020  
**Re:** Changes to admissions requirements for the Master of Business Administration

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On September 23, 2020, the Executive Committee (EC) reviewed the recommendation from the Graduate Programs Committee (GPC) that the admission requirements to the MBA program be amended to allow either a minimum score of 500 on the GMAT, or completion of the MCAT and admission to the UofS College of Medicine.

The motion passed unanimously (Mousseau/Kalra)

In clarification, this change addresses students in Medicine and pursuing an MBA who used to have to do both tests, with this amendment only a MCAT would be required.

To follow please find the proponents submission for additional context.

If you have any questions, please contact Debby Burshtyn, chair of the CGPS Executive Committee at [debby.burshtyn@usask.ca](mailto:debby.burshtyn@usask.ca) or 306-966-5759.

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Executive Committee of CGPS

**Copy:** Noreen Mahoney, Associate Dean of Students & Degree Programs, Edwards School of Business

**From:** Graduate Programs Committee

**Date:** September 16, 2020

**Re:** Proposed Changes to Admission Requirements for the Master of Business Administration

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On September 8, 2020, the Graduate Programs Committee considered a proposed change to allow completion of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), and admission to the UofS College of Medicine to be accepted in lieu of the requirement for a Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), with a minimum score of 500.

Though it was noted that the MCAT and GMAT would not provide the same assessment, it was also noted that satisfying both requirements would require additional costs and study time for applicants wanting to pursue both the Doctor of Medicine (MD), and Master of Business Administration (MBA) degrees. In such situations, exceptions were being sought which was not considered reasonable or sustainable to manage.

The Graduate Programs Committee was willing to support the MBA program proposal, and passed the following motion:

*Motion: To recommend amendment to the admission requirements to the MBA program to allow either a minimum score of 500 on the GMAT, or completion of the MCAT and admission to the UofS College of Medicine. Tanaka/Morrison 1 abstention CARRIED*

Attached please find the full proposal.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Clement at [kelly.clement@usask.ca](mailto:kelly.clement@usask.ca)

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**TO:** College of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Studies

**FROM:** Noreen Mahoney  
Associate Dean, Students & Degree Programs

**DATE:** August 17, 2020

**RE:** MBA Changes for CGPS Approval

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The following changes were approved at the August 14, 2020 MBA Committee Meeting and are presented to the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies for approval.

1. **MOTION:** Amend the admission requirements for the MBA program to indicate that completion of the MCAT and admission to the U of S College of Medicine can be substituted for the GMAT.

**RATIONALE:** Students pursuing the combined MD/MBA program are highly qualified applicants and should be considered so long as their GMAT score meets the requirements for admission to the College of Medicine

#### **Admission requirements**

##### **Master of Business Administration**

- **Language Proficiency Requirements:** Proof of English proficiency may be required for international applicants and for applicants whose first language is not English.
- a cumulative weighted average of at least a 70% (U of S grade system equivalent) in the last two years of study (i.e. 60 credit units)
- a four-year degree, or equivalent, from a recognized college or university
- applicants will participate in an interview with the M.B.A. selection committee
- current resume detailing positions held and a description of responsibilities
- minimum score of 500 Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT); **or completion of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) and admission to the U of S College of Medicine**
- three confidential letters of recommendation (minimum one academic)

The Edwards MBA assesses applicants on a composite basis for admission purposes. We look at a variety of factors when making admission decisions including undergraduate degree, grade point average, work experience, GMAT score, and reference letters.

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Mahoney', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Noreen Mahoney, CPA, CA, MBA  
Associate Dean, Students & Degree Programs  
Edwards School of Business  
PotashCorp Centre - 25 Campus Drive  
Saskatoon, SK, CA  
S7N 5A7**