



Right Time for an MBA Questionnaire

Considering a full-time MBA program? Determine if an MBA is right for you at this time.

1. Are you happy with your job?

Yes. If you are happy with your job, consider that a full-time MBA will require you to leave that job and your current career trajectory. If you don't want to leave your job, you could consider an executive MBA program that would allow you to stay in your job while studying for your MBA. However, you can be happy with your current job and still consider an MBA. If you have found a career that you enjoy and an MBA will help you further your career, now may be the right time for an MBA.

No. Do you find yourself bored with your current career? Getting an MBA can help you change your job and career trajectory. But an MBA degree is not a quick fix. Obtaining an MBA requires commitment to a rigorous program of study and is most beneficial to individuals with clearly defined career goals.

2. Do you have savings? Will you have a financial buffer as you transition from an MBA program to a new job?

Yes. Having personal savings for an MBA program can positively impact your MBA program experience. Having personal savings will allow you to take advantage of the variety of experiences that are available to you as a full-time MBA student, such as international travel opportunities. These financial resources will also give you added flexibility as you transition into your new job after completing your MBA program.

No. If you do not have substantial personal savings, this may not be the right time to enroll in a full-time MBA program. Although loans will likely be available to you, loan repayment will eat into your post-MBA salary. While many programs offer scholarships and fellowships, you should carefully consider if you will be a competitive candidate to receive one.

3. Are you willing to relocate yourself and your family for a full-time MBA program?

Yes. Being ready and able to relocate will allow you to take advantage of the best full-time MBA program admissions offer you receive. Having a plan for moving yourself and your family will help you have a smooth transition as you begin your MBA program studies.

No. For the majority of people, getting a full-time MBA means you will leave your current job and your current residence. If you or your family are unable to relocate, you may want to consider an executive or online MBA program. These programs offer you the flexibility to get an MBA without relocating, and minimize the amount of time spent away from your family.

<p>4. If you are an international student planning to study in the US, do you have strong English language skills?</p>	<p>Yes. While most US MBA programs have rich communities of international students, your overall MBA experience will be enhanced if you can take advantage of all the social, academic and career opportunities available to you in your MBA program. Strong English skills will position you to confidently participate in all of these opportunities.</p>	<p>No. Enrolling in an full-time MBA program in the US means not just starting a new program of study, but entering a new culture. One of the best ways to immerse yourself in a new culture is to have a good understanding of the language. You will be making a significant investment in your MBA education. Get the best return on your MBA program investment by having strong English language skills on day one.</p>
<p>5. Are you clear about what you want to do with your business degree?</p>	<p>Yes. Knowing what you want to do with your MBA degree will be an important factor in your success as a candidate for and a student in an MBA program. Being able to clearly articulate to yourself and others why an MBA is the right decision for your career will also help you in your MBA job search.</p>	<p>No. If you are unclear about what you would do with a business degree, take time to think about what you want to achieve in your career. Research different business industries, and consider taking assessments that will help you highlight your strengths and career interests.</p>
<p>6. Do you like numbers and quantitative problem solving?</p>	<p>Yes. MBA programs are quantitative in nature, so being comfortable with the quantitative side of business will be an advantage in an MBA program, regardless of your concentration.</p>	<p>No. Quantitative skills are a large component of the curriculum of an MBA program, and you should make arrangements to be prepared for that before you begin. Some MBA programs offer summer workshops to help you hone your quantitative skills before you begin the formal program.</p>
<p>7. Do you have too much or too little work experience?</p>	<p>Less than 1 year. MBA programs build on the work experience and skills that you have developed prior to entering the program. If you have less than one year of work experience, you may benefit from building your professional resume before applying to an MBA program. However, some employers prefer to hire MBA grads with fewer years of professional experience and will train you once you have been hired. Be sure to research whether your experience is appropriate for your career goals.</p>	<p>Over 15 years. Candidates with significant experience (15 years or more) should prepare for a more extensive job search as they look for positions that leverage their post-MBA knowledge and experience. Some employers welcome the range of skills that someone with more work experience will bring to their organizations, while others would like MBAs to learn within the hiring organization.</p>

8. How comfortable are you with looking for work at the end of your MBA program?

Looking forward to it. If you are excited about the MBA job search, you have the right attitude to make that process a success. The MBA job search will have much in common with a traditional job search, requiring your creativity and resilience. And it will benefit you to be positive in order to stand out to recruiters.

Not looking forward to it. While your MBA program career office will connect you with recruiters who are looking to hire MBA talent, the MBA job search has many of the requirements of a traditional job search, like building a resume, writing cover letters and job interviews. You need to be prepared to begin your summer internship job search within the first half of your first year in the program, and your post-MBA job search at the start of your second year.

9. Are you comfortable with ambiguity?

Yes. Having the ability to cope with ambiguity will serve you well during your MBA experience, as well as your post-MBA job search. Take advantage of the resources and coaching offered by your MBA career center and be prepared to handle the unique and unpredictable aspects of the job market.

No. Do you need to know the “right” answer to an interview question? The MBA job search is a fluid process that requires you to structure your own job search and respond to a changing employment environment. You will need to be comfortable with some ambiguity in the process to make the most of your MBA job search.

10. Are you open to relocating for your post-MBA job prospects?

Yes. If you can relocate for post-MBA employment, you will maximize your range of opportunities. International students who complete an MBA program in the US should be prepared to consider both a national and international job search in order to maximize your employment options.

No. Many hiring companies assume the recruiting process is a national, if not international process. MBA grads should consider that being unwilling or unable to relocate for employment will limit the range of opportunities available to them. In today’s competitive job market, those who must limit their opportunities should anticipate a longer post-MBA job search and have a financial resources to support it.

Are you ready? Take next step!

Contact us if you would like to set up a brief phone conversation with someone on our MBA Admissions staff to discuss any questions you have about your readiness to begin a full-time MBA program. Be sure to put “Right Time Questionnaire” in the email subject line.

Register to receive email updates from our MBA Admissions team.

Apply to UNC Kenan-Flagler.