

The Ultimate Guide to the Harvard MBA Application: Everything You Need to Know to Get Accepted

Getting into Harvard Business School is no easy feat. In fact, the acceptance rate for the MBA program is just 11%. But if you're serious about pursuing an MBA at Harvard, then this guide will walk you through everything you need to know to put your best foot forward and increase your chances of getting accepted.



Harvard MBA Application Guide (MBA Admissions)

by Jon Taffer

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Step 1: Choose Your Recommenders

The first step in the MBA application process is to choose your recommenders. These are people who can attest to your academic and professional abilities. They should be people who know you well and can speak to your character, work ethic, and leadership potential.

When choosing your recommenders, keep the following in mind:

- **Choose people who know you well.** Your recommenders should be able to speak to your specific strengths and weaknesses. They should also be able to provide concrete examples of your work ethic, leadership skills, and academic ability.
- **Choose people who are credible.** Your recommenders should be respected professionals who are well-known in their field. They should also be able to provide a balanced and objective assessment of your abilities.
- **Choose people who will write strong letters.** Your recommenders should be willing to take the time to write thoughtful and well-crafted letters of recommendation. They should also be able to meet the deadlines set by the admissions committee.

Step 2: Write Your Essays

The essays are a critical part of the MBA application. They are your opportunity to tell the admissions committee who you are, what you've accomplished, and why you want to attend Harvard Business School.

When writing your essays, keep the following in mind:

- **Be authentic.** The admissions committee wants to get to know the real you. Don't try to be someone you're not. Be honest about your strengths and weaknesses, and write about your experiences in a way that is personal and engaging.
- **Be specific.** The admissions committee wants to know what you've accomplished, not just what you've done. Use specific examples to illustrate your work ethic, leadership skills, and academic ability.

- **Be concise.** The admissions committee doesn't have time to read long, rambling essays. Keep your essays to the point and make sure every word counts.

Step 3: Submit Your Application

Once you have completed your essays and gathered your letters of recommendation, it's time to submit your application. The MBA application deadline is January 5th for the fall semester and September 15th for the spring semester.

When submitting your application, make sure to double-check that you have included all of the required materials. The admissions committee will not review incomplete applications.

Step 4: Interview with the Admissions Committee

If you are selected for an interview, it is important to prepare thoroughly. The interview is your chance to meet the admissions committee face-to-face and make a lasting impression.

When preparing for your interview, keep the following in mind:

- **Research Harvard Business School.** Be sure to know about the school's history, mission, and curriculum.
- **Practice answering common interview questions.** There are many resources available online that can help you prepare for the types of questions you may be asked.
- **Be yourself.** The admissions committee wants to get to know the real you. Don't try to be someone you're not.

Step 5: Make Your Decision

If you are fortunate enough to receive an offer of admission from Harvard Business School, you will need to make a decision. This is a big decision, so take your time and consider all of your options.

When making your decision, keep the following in mind:

- **Consider your career goals.** Harvard Business School is a great place to launch a career in business. However, it is important to make sure that the school is a good fit for your specific career goals.
- **Consider the cost.** Harvard Business School is an expensive school. Make sure you have a plan to finance your education before you enroll.
- **Consider the fit.** Harvard Business School is a unique school with a unique culture. Make sure you are comfortable with the school's culture before you enroll.

Getting into Harvard Business School is a competitive process, but it is possible. By following the steps outlined in this guide, you can increase your chances of getting accepted.

Remember, the admissions committee is looking for students who are intelligent, motivated, and have the potential to be successful in business. If you have these qualities, then you have a good chance of getting into Harvard Business School.

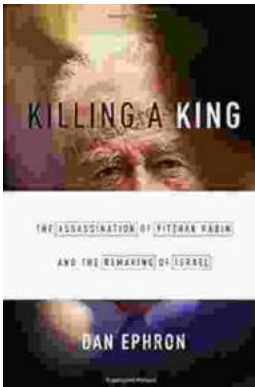
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